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day of February, in the year one
and seventy-three.
J. H. TYLER, Register.

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MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN

DEVOTED TO AGRICULTURE, HORTICULTURE, THE FARM, THE GARDEN, THE FIRESIDE, RURAL LIFE, LITERATURE, USEFUL ARTS, NEWS, &c.

AND NEW ENGLAND AGRICULTURE.

JOURNAL OF

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Editorial.

THE POTATO DISEASE.

We spoke at some length last week, upon the present status of the potato disease question, but space did not admit of making the statement full and complete. It is not a matter in which people are particularly interested, though it seriously affects the prosperity of every farmer. The fact is, we suppose, that most people have got heartily sick of hearing and seeing so much about it, and in this we are quite inclined to agree with them, and admit that it is a terribly dry and uninteresting subject, and for that reason we shall try to be brief in what remains to be said and then have done with it, we hope, for the present.

The minds of most men, who think and observe at all, are pretty well agreed upon one point, and that is that the potato blight, rot or disease whatever it may be called, is greatly dependent upon the conditions of the atmosphere or the weather, and among these conditions are especially to be mentioned electrical disturbances and the alternation of heat and rains. But it is difficult to explain why this disease should not have appeared with any general severity previous to the year 1845, since there were probably the same electrical conditions of the atmosphere and the same varying seasons before that time, as since. The fact that this plant was comparatively healthy and free from disease previous to the attack of the malady about the year 1845, now commonly called the potato rot, would seem to indicate that it has *undergone some intrinsic* constitutional *change from long* cultivation, that is that the *origin* of the rot is something arising from the plant itself, rather than from mere external causes.

In September 1872, *Nature*, a scientific journal in England, showed that the disease appeared at certain intervals or returned in cycles, and that the attack of 1872, very severe in Great Britain, was the most violent of any since 1846, the worst of the intermediate years being midway between 1859 and 1861, being a recurrence of eleven or twelve years, and the accordance between these dates and the maximum sun spots is certainly very curious and striking. A distinguished observer, Schwabe, has clearly pointed out the periodicity of the sun spots as the result of over forty years of the most accurate scientific observation, and has shown that the number of spots are not the same year after year, but that the maximum occurs about every ten years. And another scientific man, Gen. Saléne, was led by this various fact, to observe that the several epochs of maximum sun spots were precisely those of the greatest magnetic disturbance in our globe. Other scientific men, distinguished for their researches in solar physics, also show that the periods of maximum solar disturbances occurred in 1846, 1860 and 1872 and these were about the periods of great and prevailing epidemics.

Now it is probable that epidemics among men and the various forms of epizootic diseases among animals and plants are caused by fungus. There is little doubt, for example, that cholera is thus caused, and that fungoid growths, being propagated as we have shown by spores, are really the cause of most other epidemics, which as is well known, can generally be avoided by the removal of favoring conditions, and if epidemics should be clearly proved to have their cycles, it will be one great step in advance, because it may lead mankind to be on their guard and keep clear of the conditions or predisposing causes of their prevalence.

It might be difficult, in the present state of our knowledge, to point out just how the sun spots can have anything to do with the potato disease, and it is too deep for us to go into in this connection, except to say that they indicate a great disturbance of the solar atmosphere, and that the electric currents of the earth have corresponding disturbances, while every one must admit that electricity has an intimate connection with, and a powerful influence upon both animal and vegetable processes. Electrical and magnetic storms, when they are of frequent occurrence, may greatly affect the formation of vegetable tissues, and cause an imperfect organization. Here is a vast field open for scientific investigation, and if it ever arrives at anything practical farmers will hail it as a lasting blessing to them and to all mankind.

As was intimated last week, we have some hopes that continued experiment and investigation will sooner or later arrive at some result in restoring the old strength of constitution of the plant, so to speak, but so far as any practical benefit is concerned, the results so far, are not at all encouraging. The investigations have been superficial so far as experiments in this country are concerned, many of them puerile, and all of them fruitless so far as we can see. But because failure has so far marked our superficial and empirical methods, it is no reason for giving it up. The only way is to keep trying, bring to our aid all the light of science and practice at the same time, and persevere. We have been accustomed to plant, not the seeds, but merely the tubers, underground stems, consisting largely of an accumulation of starch designed to furnish the eyes with a supply of nourishment, when they start on their process of growth. Let us try the effect of a change of plan, experiment with obtaining seedlings and new varieties procured in the natural way. That may lead to something. Let us hope for the best.

CANKER WORMS.

The snow and ice has kept the canker worm grubs in the ground later than usual this spring. Ordinarily they begin to ascend about the middle of March and it is necessary to tar or ink the trees as early as that to make sure of heading them off. If you begin immediately, you will be in season for them this time, as they can't make any headway till the snow is off, and the ground opens. Consider now whether it is not worth a little trouble to have your trees look all green and fresh in June, that is if you have been troubled with this insect heretofore.

THE BRETONS IN FRANCE.

In an extract in our last week's *Ploughman*, from the journal of the Royal Agricultural Society, we alluded to the exhibition of this beautiful little breed of cattle and the interest they excited in England. The *Journal d' Agriculture Pratique*, the leading agricultural periodical published at Paris, says "it is emphatically the poor man's cow and that its merit is the quality, color, and especially the *flavor* of the butter. This is a nutty flavor and is quite independent of the herbage or fodder consumed by the animal and that it is retained in the produce of crossbred stock, to the third or fourth cross. The existence of this peculiar flavor seems to be generally admitted. The butter, then, is much esteemed at home (at Rennes, Ayrshire butter would not sell) and much of it is exported to England."

The author of the article, M. Jamet, says, also, "The little Morbihan (Brittany) cow is of tiny size; her head is charming; her fine legs and slim feet add to the delicacy of her shape which is very attractive. The butter is delicious. This fixed character and property of the race arises probably from its antiquity." It is just the quality to make the animal desirable as the family cow, and in this praticular she is unsurpassed, while her gentleness and docility will always make her a favoite as a family pet.

PROTECTION OF FARMERS.

Col. Clark appeared before the Committee on Agriculture on Tuesday the 11th. to urge the adoption of a more complete and stringent law to protect the purchasers of commercial fertilizers against fraud and adulteration. He made out a strong and clear case. The manufacturers of these fertilizers also had a hearing before the committee on the 18th. We are sorry to see any disposition on their part to object, as a judicious law would operate to protect the honest manufacturer and to put all on a level. It would also increase the sales of such fertilizers very largely.

MASSACHUSETTS AGRICULTURAL CLUB.

A very pleasant incident in the history of this institution occurred the other day, which is worthy of mention. The club has been in existence about thirty-four years. It is composed of a few leading agricultural and horticultural gentlemen, who meet together to compare experience and to keep up with the spirit of the age. Mr. Cheever Newhall of Dorchester, occupied the chair at its first meeting, and still holds the position. On Thursday, the 13th, the celebration of his 85th birthday, he invited the club, consisting of thirteen individuals and a few guests, to a special social entertainment at the Parker House. The table was set in Mr. Parker's best style and loaded with a superb collection of rare flowers, being a beautiful floral tribute of affection and regard by the members of the club to their honored President.

After a reasonable time devoted to the discussion of practical matters, the Hon. Marshall P. Wilder made a congratulatory address, on behalf of the members of the club, upon the joyous occasion which had called them together, alluding to the influence which the club had exerted in diffusing correct information upon the various branches of agriculture and horticulture during the long period of its existence. He also traced the history of Mr. Newhall's labors from the time when he became one of the original corporators of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, and one of the founders of the Norfolk Agricultural Society, and the usefulness of his example and experience as a practical farmer and cultivator of fruits. Col. Wilder was followed by Mr. Flint, Secretary of the State Board of Agriculture, who referred to the many felicities attendant upon old age as set forth by Cicero in a most fascinating treatise upon that subject, written in the country, and describing the peculiarities of advanced age in so charming a style that we are almost persuaded to long for old age as the most enviable portion of human life. The chief evils of it, he says, as they exist in the minds of most men, are that it withdraws us from active pursuits; that it weakens the organs of the body; that it takes away from us the pleasures of youth and that it leads to peevishness, complaints and avarice. These objections, the great orator refutes in a masterly manner, and shows that those who have no internal resources of happiness find themselves uneasy at every stage of life; that the loss of strength is not to be regretted; that dotage and imbecility in age are generally occasioned by the irregularities of youth, and that no season of life can be passed more agreeably than the learned leisure of virtuous old age, in the midst of the pleasures and the profits of rural employments, just the part which our honored friend, Mr. Newhall, has so wisely chosen.

Hon. J. P. Putnum, Hon. Henry F. French, Aaron D. Weld, Esq., F. M. Weld, Esq., Joseph H. Billings, Esq., E. F. Bowditch, Esq., and others followed, congratulating the President and the club, upon the fortunate circumstances under which taey had met.

ESSEX INSTITUTE ANNIVERSARY.

The twenty-fifth anniversary of the Essex Institute, or rather the silver wedding of the Essex Historical Society and the Essex County Natural History Society, which were consolidated in the formation of the Institute, was the occasion of a brilliant gathering and elegant banquet at Salem, on Wednesday evening. The Institute has given an impulse to scientific research which has been felt the world over, and the city of Salem, rich in historical association, marks its progress with a feeling just pride. The gathering was notable for the presence not only of the best society of the city and the brilliant coterie of devoted scientists, who find a congenial home under the shadow of the Institute, but also for the presence of those who hold the highest civic stations in the State. Besides the speeches of President Wheatland, Governor Washburn and others, Hon. Marshall P. Wilder was called on to respond for the New England Historic Genealogical Society. After alluding to the early history of New England, to the honored names of our worthies to which he said time would not allow him to allude, but he could not refrain from referring to some of the Massachusetts men who had become benefactors of our age—to Hancock, who placed his sign manual to that ever memorable Declaration of Independence—to Franklin, who drew the electric spark from the clouds and held it in his hand—to Morse who trained it in the way in which it should go and taught it to speak all the languages of the globe—to Field who laid that mystic wire in the fathomless abyss of ocean from continent to continent—to your own Peabody for his beneficent bequests to the world, and whose remains were sent home by royal convoy to rest in his native soil—and to Ames, to whose indomitable energy and enterprise the world owes more than to any other man, for opening up that great highway of nations to the world, for all coming time.

THE SEASON.

The snow hangs on amazingly in many localities in the country. A week ago we found it about four feet deep thirty miles from Boston and piled up as high as the walls. We shall have to make a discount on our recent prediction of an early spring, unless a warm south wind and rain sweats off the snow banks. But there is not much frost in the ground, and when the warm rains come it will settle rapidly. Get the ploughs ready therefore, so as not to lose time when the land is ready.

SOWING CLOVER SEED.

Where land was seeded down last fall, clover seed ought to be sown on the surface as soon, now, as the snow is off, or the land is fit to travel over. It is a convenient way to take advantage of some light snow and sow it directly upon that. It enables one to see to sow it uniformly, and the melting snow helps carry the seed down into the soil. We like to mix in a little alsike clover with the red clover seed. But if red clover is sown alone use ten pounds of seed at least, and fifteen pounds is better.

THE LAW AND COMMERCIAL FERTILIZERS.

The Committee on Agriculture seems inclined to do something to protect farmers against frauds in commercial fertilizers. It is high time. It is proposed to appoint an Inspector whose duty it shall be to analyze all articles sold in the market and to make the penalties for adulteration something proportionate to the offence, which it is not now. Prof. Goessmann, Chemist of the Massachusetts State Board, will probably be appointed, if the law passes.

BRITTANY CATTLE.

In reply to several inquiries as to where these cattle can be had we can refer to no one who has them for sale except Mr. James S. Campbell of Westboro, near the Southville station, who will sell three or four head next week to reduce his stock, and particulars can be had of him at Westboro', if applied to immediately.

The name of this breed is often written Breton or, feminine, Bretonne, adjective forms of Bretagne, which is anglicised as Brittany. There is a call for these cattle at the south, where, it is thought, they would be admirably adapted. We have had letters of inquiry from Mississippi and Florida.

FARMERS, BEWARE.

We understand that an individual, calling himself H. Pollard, and locating his place of business at 38 Pearl street, Boston, is now and has for some time past been travelling through portions of this State, Bristol county, and elsewhere, and in Rhode Island, under the assumed sanction of the Massachusetts State Board of Agriculture, for the purpose of teaching our farmers what he knows of fertilizers, commercial and otherwise. His programme is to announce by posters and bills his coming, by authority of our State Board, to lecture on and explain the methods of manufacturing fertilizers &c., giving formulas. We understand he has reaped quite a harvest, different towns in his line of march being bled to the extent of from twenty to fifty dollars for an evening's *instruction*.

We have made inquiries at the office of the Secretary of the State Board, and find that no Mr. H. Pollard, nor any other man, has any such authority from the Board.

Farmers, look out for him. The following is one of his formulas, *verbatim et literatim*.

1 Bill lums. (loam).
5 Po Sodyash (Soda ash.)
5 Po lime.
5 Po Goano (Guano.)
5 Po Salt.
5 Bll to acre.

☞ The sum annually realized from the sale of water cresses in London exceeds $50,000. Some ten thousand bunches are disposed of daily in the city markets.

☞ The London *Times* places the number of cattle in Great Britain annually available for the butcher at 2,336,000; and sheep at 11,033,000.

Correspondence.

HINTS ON STRAWBERRY CULTURE.

Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:

Having received many letters of inquiry on the subject, and as I make strawberries a speciality, perhaps a few hints in regard to the method may be of some use to beginners. One man asks is the spring as good a time to set plants as the fall. I had thought that every one knew that the spring was the best time; but it seems they do not, and I will say that the spring is the only time, (no matter what may be said in books to the contrary.) Set them in the spring by all means, and the earlier the better. The next letter read, "Will you tell me which is the best kind of land?" I do not think it makes much difference, with plenty of manure, but prefer a deep sandy loom as it is much more easily cultivated. One man wishes to know how many plants are needed to set an acre, and the best way. To set an acre it takes from fourteen to twenty-five thousand plants, depending upon how thickly they are set. My way is to have the rows three feet apart, and the plants eight inches apart in the row, cultivating with horse hoe between the rows, and with hand hoe between plants. It will save much trouble if the rows are made exactly equal distances apart.

I have tried hard to believe that the hill system was the best, but as I have had poor success trying to raise strawberries in hills I do not recommend it; if any one wishes to try the plan they will find directions in the Old Farmers' Almanac for 1872.

In regard to which kind is the best, it depends so much upon the soil that no one can tell until they have tried several kinds. One man that I know of has tried most every kind, and has finally given the preference to the Cutter Seedlings, but taking every thing into consideration, I think the *Downer's Prolific* the best. To those who have a limited supply of manure I would say set the Downer Prolific by all means, for it will bear neglect and still give a good crop, but with high cultivation the yield is enormous. The Wilson will not do much except it has the right kind of land, what that kind is I do not know; every quart of the Wilson costs me more than four quarts of the Downer. As for the fancy kinds, with high prices and pretty names, the farmer had better let them alone.

D. C. TALBOT.

Norwood, March 3, 1873.

CURIOUS CONDUCT OF POULTRY.

Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:

We have a few hens that seem to be afflicted in a peculiar manner, and not knowing the cause, or remedy—we write to ask your help—or that of some of the readers of the *Ploughman*. The hens begin to droop their bodies toward the ground, and gradually they assume an unnatural position, standing almost as erect as a human being and spreading their legs very much apart. They do not lose their appetite, but seem in every other way to be healthy, some of them laying regularly at the same time. We have had but few cases of this kind, and are not yet satisfied as to what will be the result, but *think* they sometimes recover, after a long time.

Whether it be a *disease* or not we cannot tell. Our hens are of a mixed breed, good size, the brahma predominating. If any light can be thrown upon the subject, by any one, you will much oblige J. C.

Dracut, Mass. March 5, 1873.

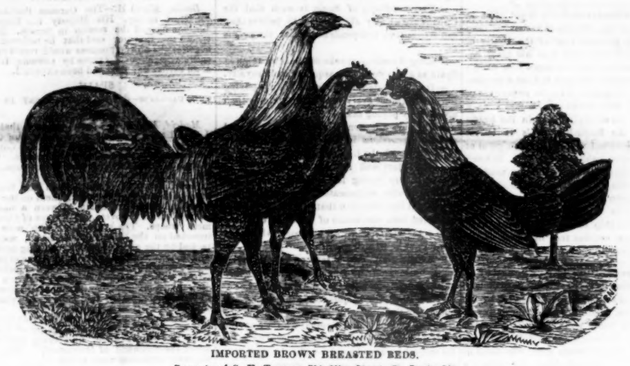
ARTIFICIAL HONEY.

Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:

Will some one furnish a good recipe for "Artificial Honey" through the *Ploughman? Methuen, Mass.* SUBSCRIBER.

TO RAISE EARLY CUCUMBERS.

Cucumbers for early use may be forced in hotbeds. For this purpose the beds need not be started till the middle of March, for when the young vines are above ground they will require an abundance of air daily, which cannot always be given if started earlier in the season, on account of cold weather. These have been many attempts made among commercial gardeners around New York, who have vegetable forcing houses, to start cucumbers as early as January in those houses; but every such attempt has, so far, proved unsuccessful. But when the forcing beds are started as late as the middle of March, it is quite as easy to raise a crop of cucumbers as it is a crop of eggs or tomato plants. To save trouble in watering the beds, more soil may be used than is needed in raising plants. When the bed is ready for planting, two "hills" may be planted under each sash, putting six seeds in each hill of the "White Spine," one of the best varieties, either for forcing or garden culture. When the young plants are an inch or two above ground they should be thinned out, leaving only three in one and two vines in the other, or two in each, in case the plants are strong. At this stage of growth the important point is to give air freely every day, without checking the growth, until the second week in April. Straw mats should be put over the sashes at night to protect against frost. When the vines begin to "run," pinching off the end of each at the third joint will encourage a more stocky growth, and if pinched a second time at the fifth joint the vine will not only be stronger but the cucumber will be borne nearer the hill. Whenever the surface soil in the beds becomes dry, then tepid water should be given in quantity enough to moisten the soil, but not enough to saturate the bed. These few general directions, if followed, will put one on the right path to raise cucumbers under glass. Those who enjoy cucumbers and cannot afford the time or expense of forcing them, can by a little trouble have cucumbers fit for table use at least a month earlier in the garden than when grown in the ordinary way. For this purpose a single sash and frame, with or without bottom heat, in which to sow the seed will be all sufficient. Shallow drills one inch deep should be made, and the seed of the Early Spine, sowed thinly and then covered, pressing the soil down firmly over the seed. This may be done the last week in March, and by the time the weather is settled and the ground warm enough in the open ground to plant cucumbers, the plants in the frame will be two or three inches high, with the first rough leaf well developed. These young plants may then be lifted without disturbing the roots and transplanted into the open ground without checking their growth in the least. By following this simple plan there is no danger to be apprehended from the striped bug, for the plants are already far enough advanced to be proof against such attacks. In the space of a single sash, 2x6, enough of plants can be started in this way to plant 75 hills—twice the number usually planted for family use at any one time.



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Property of C. H. TURNER, 714 *Olive Street, St. Louis, Mo.*

REPORT
—ON—
COMMERCIAL FERTILIZERS.

BY PROF. CHARLES A. GOESSMANN.

[*Continued from last week.*]

The peculiar agricultural value of any fertilizer depends on the conditions of the soil under treatment, and that one of its constituents exerts the highest effect, which increases the amount of that ingredient which is most wanting in the soil for the support of the plant under cultivation. In some instances, it may be a suitable nitrogen compound; in others, phosphoric acid or potassa, or lime, etc. The *agricultural* value of a fertiliser and its *commercial* value are measured by quite different standards,—the former is determined by the judicious selection of the farmer, and the latter depends on the relation of demand and supply in the general market. The amount, and the relative proportion of the active plant-food in the soil, control the yield of the crops, provided the weather is the same. To secure the highest possible yield, under given circumstances, requires to manure to such a degree, that the plants find, at any given period of their growth, the largest amount of each article of plant-food they are capable of turning to account in their development. It is a noticeable fact, that plants quite frequently require, even of the same article of plant-food, a different quantity, in the various stages of their growth. It has been noticed, for instance, that the grain-crops consume an unusually large proportion of nitrogen during the period of blooming and forming of the seed. In case the supply is not adequate to the periodical demand of the plants, their yield must suffer. It is for this reason in particular that a liberal manuring of farmlands on rational principles pays better than to furnish but a meagre supply.

The present scientific views regarding the supply of atmospheric plant-food are not less explicit than those regarding the ash-constituents of plants. There is good reason to assume that all the carbon and the nitrogen which plants and animal contain is of atmospheric origin. Perfect plants may be raised from seeds in soil from which, by calcination, every organic and nitrogenous substance has been removed, by adding the ash-constituents of the plants to be raised, and by keeping the whole moist with rain-water. The nitrogen is supplied by the rain-water, in the form of ammonia and nitric acid. The atmosphere contains, for ordinary requirements, particularly for perennial plants, an ample supply of carbolic acid, water and ammonia, as appears in the growth of forests (Hlubeck states the average annual growth of wood in the forests of Austria to be 1,500 pounds—=32·33 cubic feet) per Prussian morgen, or 2,700 pounds on one acre] and unmanured meadows. Yet, when the duration of the growing period becomes an important factor, as in the case of raising farm-crops, it is but natural to conclude that an artificial supply of atmospheric plant-food deserves the same attention as the supply of mineral plant-food, for any excess of the latter is of no value as long as a proper complement of the former does not render it active.

To secure a luxuriant growth requires, therefore, an artificial supply of atmospheric plant-food, and as decaying organic substances are continually producing carbonic acid, ammonia and water, the beneficial results arising from an incorporation of organic matter in the soil find a satisfactory explanation. The roots absorb the carbonic acid, water and ammonia from the soil, and this additional supply becomes of particular importance when the leaves of the plants are but little developed, or where they remain, from natural causes, of a small size, and are thus, in both cases, poorly qualified to absorb these substances freely from the air. Decaying organic matter acts, also, beneficially on the physical condition of the soil, and is a source of heat, in consequence of its gradual oxidation. As a liberal source of carbonic acid, it aids in the disintegration of the soil. By its highly carbonaceous character, it renders a light soil more retentive of moisture, and, if properly incorporated, by its own shrinking, heavy soils are made more porous.

In spite of all these varied beneficial chemical and physical actions of the organic matter on the soil, no controlling importance is accorded to its presence, for, without its complement of mineral plant-food, its influence on the yield of crops can be but slight. The humus theory has had its day, and the nitrogen theory has followed suit. Experiments have proved that each fertilizing agent has its particular limit in promoting growth, and that a large accumulation of any one of them in the soil is, if not directly hurtful, at least bad economy. [Stockhardt, in experimenting with guano on potatoes, noticed that, in using 163 pounds of guano per acre, each pound of that fertilizer produced an increase of 25.2 pounds of potatoes; in using 340 pounds, but 12.2 pounds; in case of 520 pounds, but 2.5 pounds; and in case of 695 pounds, but 1.75 pounds' increase of potatoes were obtained. Mr. Lawes' experiments with ammonia compounds, etc., give similar results.] The fact that phosphates sometimes, after years of liberal use, fail to produce the valuable results which had at first been noticed, is an illustration of the consequences of supplying fertilizers without due regard to the demand for them. From the foregoing statements, it must appear quite conclusive that concentrated commercial fertilizers deserve the particular attention of farmers, on account of their peculiar fitness to convert stable-manure into a complete fertilizer for any crop, and to produce thus by its use the highest possible yield from the lands under cultivation.

Artificial fertilizers, on account of their concentration and solubility, favor also a speedy enriching of the soil. To restore farm-lands, which have been reduced in their productiveness, to their original fertility, even when possible by means of stable-manure, requires some years of high manuring. The quality of the animal excretions, and the properties of the soil to be enriched, have each their specific influence on the result. Manures obtained from horses, or high-fed animals for instance, disintegrate more rapidly than that of cattle kept for ordinary purposes. Heavy and compact soils, being very retentive, require a larger amount of plant-food to thoroughly fertilize them than those which are less retentive, since its distribution is more restricted. Light soils, as sandy loam, etc., are well known to respond more quickly to manuring than heavy soils, and they are also more readily exhausted. A fair loamy soil gives the best returns with concentrated fertilizers, and extremes of soil are, considered from an economical standpoint, unprofitable for high farming. As the farmer has to deal more or less with all kinds of soil, and in a varying state of productiveness, he finds himself often surrounded by most serious difficulties, in bringing his fields rapidly to their highest yield, when depending for fertilization on the exclusive use of his stable-manure, since the latter requires several years for its complete disintegration. A properly manufactured commercial fertilizer may frequently, in a shorter time, supply what is wanting to the soil, and its rapid distribution turn the latent plant-food at once to account, and thus secure, even the first year, remunerative crops. Well cultivated lands require, for the increase of their annual yield, but a small quantity of the fertilizing substance, provided the latter is in a state fit for immediate assimilation. Thus twelve to fifteen pounds of nitrogen and twenty to twenty-four pounds of phosphoric acid, ready for action, suffice in many instances per acre. Speedy distribution being thus one of the principal virtues of commercial fertilizers, it is right that the farmer should insist upon having such manures prepared with reference to that point. All concentrated fertilizers ought to be brought into a state of minute division, by mechanical or chemical means, as the circumstances may prescribe. Their comparatively high price renders it necessary that the investment, with interest, should be soon returned. Many of these artificial fertilizers have of late acquired, also, an additional value, on account of their special character, and thus special action on the quality of various important crops for industrial purposes. They have greatly aided to improve those qualities which impart to them a higher value. The improvements in the cultivation of sugar-beets, tobacco, etc., are of such an encouraging character, that much valuable information may be expected from experiments with other crops. Their importance in this direction will increase in the same proportion as we shall understand better the exact functions of each of the various mineral plant-constituents in regard to the various physiological processes going on in the growing plant. To study the peculiar influence of each article of plant-food on the production of vegetable substances, such as starch, sugar, oil, etc., has engaged for years the particular attention of agricultural chemists. When these questions are better understood, there is good reason to assume that a rotation in special fertilizers will ultimately serve, in a large degree, and very efficiently, as a substitute for the rotation of crops.

The recognition of the importance of various mineral substances in the economy of plant-life, has produced, as a natural result, the trade in fertilizers, and each new requirement of the farmer has been speedily supplied. Bone phosphates and superphosphates, the latter frequently mixed with nitrogenous animal matter or ammonia compounds, have formed hitherto the main bulk of commercial fertilizers. Phosphoric acid, lime, sulphuric acid and nitrogen have thus for years past been duly represented in the market, while potassa and magnesia have received less attention. The sources of potassa for fertilizing purposes formerly consisted mainly of nitre and wood-ashes. The former proved too expensive for agricultural use, and the latter were not available in sufficient quantity. The supply of magnesia was left entirely to the natural resources of the soil. The recent discovery of immense deposits of mineral, containing both potassa and magnesia in a soluble form, has given a peculiar interest to extensive and systematic agricultural implements, by which their great value has been abundantly demonstrated. I propose, therefore, to treat of these new fertilizers, which are known in commerce by the name of Stassfurt salts, somewhat more in detail in another part of this Report.

The great interest which the farmers of the State must feel to learn what they are buying, and whether they are getting the value of their money, has induced me to make myself somewhat familiar with the character of some of these fertilizers which enter our markets. The samples have been taken from barrels bought in their respective depots in our vicinity, and had their proper brands, and, at the same time, the required printed statements concerning their chemical composition. As the farmer does not propose to pay for anything but phosphoric acid, nitrogen (or ammonia) and potassa, I give my analytical results with particular reference to these substances. The valuation of these articles have been made in conformity with the prices of late recognized by dealers and consumers in our section of the country. These prices are 16.25 cents for each pound of soluble phosphoric acid, 13.2 cents for every pound of reduced phosphoric acid, six cents for every pound of insoluble phosphoric acid, thirty cents for each pound of nitrogen and eight cents for each pound of potassa. Reduced phosphoric acid is that portion which has apparently once been rendered soluble in water, but has become insoluble again in consequence of peculiar reactions which sometimes occur in the furnished fertilizer. Its compound with lime is soluble in citrate of ammonia, and in a suitable condition for speedy absorption under the influence of the carbonic acid of the soil.

I.

AMMONIATED BONE SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME, MANUFACTURED BY RUSSELL & CO.

Moisture and volatile matter	61 84	per ct
Non-volatile matter	38.46	"
Soluble phosphoric acid	10 05	"
Reduced " "	2.14	"
Insoluble " "	2.66	"
Nitrogen (=2.5 ammonia)	2.09	"

Valuation per ton of 2000 pounds.

201.0 pounds of soluble phosphoric acid	$32 64	
42.3 " of reduced " "	5 60	
49.2 " of insoluble " "	2 96	
40.4 " of nitrogen (80.0 lbs. of ammonia)	12 12	
	$54 94	

II.

W. L. BRADLEY'S XL FERTILIZER

Moisture and volatile matter	52.11	per ct.
Non-volatile matter	47.89	"
Soluble phosphoric acid	6.46	"
Reduced " "	2.18	"
Insoluble " "	3.80	"
Nitrogen (3.23 ammonia)	2.43	"

Valuation per ton of 2000 pounds.

129.0 pounds of soluble phosphoric acid	$20 96	
56.6 " of reduced " "	7 47	
72.0 " of insoluble " "	4 32	
48.6 " of nitrogen (64.6 ammonia)	14 58	
	$47 33	

III.

WILSON'S AMMONIATED SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME.

Moisture and volatile matter	50.95	per ct.
Non-volatile matter	49.05	"
Soluble phosphoric acid	6.66	"
Reduced " "	1.01	"
Insoluble " "	0.93	"
Nitrogen (3.42 ammonia)	2.82	"

Valuation per ton of 2000 pounds.

133.0 pounds of soluble phosphoric acid	$21 51	
20.2 " of reduced " "	2 66	
18.6 " of insoluble " "	1 12	
56.4 " of nitrogen (68.4 ammonia)	16 80	
	$42 09	

IV.

QUINNIPIAC SOLUBLE NITROGENOUS PHOSPHATE.

Moisture and volatile matter	55.51	per ct.
Non-volatile matter	44.49	"
Soluble phosphoric acid	8.50	"
Reduced " "	2.45	"
Insoluble " "	6.47	"
Nitrogen (3.14 ammonia)	2.59	"

Valuation per ton of 2000 pounds.

110.0 pounds of soluble phosphoric acid	$19 87	
49.0 " of reduced " "	6.87	
72.4 " of insoluble " "	4.76	
51.8 " of Nitrogen (62.8 ammonia)	15 54	
	$46 76	

V.

FALE'S FERTILIZER.

Moisture and volatile matter	39 87	per ct.
Non-volatile matter	60.13	"
Soluble phosphoric acid	1.50	"
Reduced " "	2.49	"
Insoluble " "	4.06	"
Nitrogen (3.23 ammonia)	2.66	"

Valuation per ton of 2000 pounds.

30.00 pounds of soluble phosphoric acid	$4 88	
49.80 " of reduced " "	6.57	
81.20 " of insoluble " "	4.87	
53.20 " of nitrogen (64.6 ammonia)	15 96	
	$32 28	

VI.

GUANO (GUANAPE ISLANDS).

Moisture and volatile matter	57.38	54.17
Non-volatile matter	42.62	45.83
Soluble phosphoric acid	10.94	12.47
Insoluble " "	11.59	12.06
Nitrogen (11.78 ammonia)		2.70
Potassa		2.02

Valuation per ton of 2000 pounds.

238.80 pounds of phosphoric acid (at 12.64 cents per pound)	$30 18
194.00 pounds of nitrogen (235.60 ammonia)	58 20
40.40 pounds of potassa	2 23
	$91 61

MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN & NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE--BOSTON, SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 1873.

The Ploughman.

BOSTON, SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 1873.

THE MURDER MANIA.

If there is no real security for human life, there is but a small chance for social progress in any organized community. That is the prime condition of keeping up a state of civilized society at all. The frequency of homicides since the war is a phenomenon that has but recently begun to alarm the people of the country, who are suddenly arousing themselves to consider what it is possible to do to administer the preventive. The first demand heard is for the rigid execution of the law, so that the penalty allotted to murder shall in all cases be administered. Certainly that ought to be insisted on. But whether its neglect is owing to a laxity in this regard, owing to a growing aversion to hanging, is another question.

Forster's case, as well as that of McElhaney nearer home, has given the subject a more than usually impressive significance. It is seriously asked whether juries would bring in verdicts against murderers, if the death penalty was abolished. If so, then there are a great many suffrages waiting to be cast for the abolition of it. Human sympathies reluct at the execution of any penalty that has the appearance of cruelty; and although the guillotine unquestionably is merciful in comparison with the rope, the real query is whether it is man's prerogative to torture any human soul with the fears of a death fixed for a certain day. Is it right to take the issues of life out of the hands of the Almighty?

But there is nevertheless a serious obstacle in the way of abolishing the death penalty. Granting that public sentiment is ready to yield the point now, and to accept imprisonment for life to the murderer in place of punishment on the gallows; the question then arises whether the former penalty can be equally relied on? Justice surely has some determinate claims, and society still demands adequate protection. If perpetual imprisonment will secure both, well and good; but if imprisonment is to take the place of hanging only to be easily rid of both at the last, society will be very loth to let go its hold on the death penalty, imperfectly as it is visited upon criminal deserts, until it is perfectly assured of its alternative.

The public mind was never before in such an unsettled state on so momentous an issue, and recent developments have strongly tended to make it still more so. There is a decided disposition to extirpate the last element of barbarity from the punishment even of the highest crime known to the calendar, but the general feeling is that it is unsafe and impolitic to make any serious and radical change until some sufficient guarantee is established for the equable and faithful satisfaction of the demands of justice. Society will continue to insist on satisfying its own necessities first. It has prior rights to those of the criminal. True, as a civilized society it may not perpetuate inhumanity even in its acts of punishment; but it has liberty to question the limitations of humanity when it comes down to the issue for its own existence.

THE ENGLISH MINISTERIAL CRISIS.

The vote of the House of Commons on the Irish University bill which was brought forward by the government, and was defeated by a trifling majority, was interpreted by the Cabinet as a test vote of the existence of the present administration. The vote was a surprise to all parties, as it was supposed that the liberal ministry had a strong majority in Parliament and the country, and the parties and the country were little prepared for the results. According to the etiquette established by long custom and seldom departed from, the premier, Sir William Gladstone, at once waited on the Queen and tendered the resignation of himself and his associates.

The Queen at once sent for Mr. Disraeli, and requested him to form a cabinet, but the veteran conservative leader had not much confidence in the ability of the conservative party to carry on the government, and after a short deliberation informed the Queen that it would be impossible for him to assume the premiership, unless an early dissolution of Parliament was ordered, and that is not desired by any party. The conservative leaders are divided as to the expediency of their undertaking to carry on the government with Parliament largely hostile on general principles, although accidentally in harmony on the bill which occasioned the emergency.

It was reported later that Lord Derby, (conservative) was attempting to form a cabinet, with the leading conservatives associated, but his success was doubtful. Up to Monday the crisis continued, and no solution of the difficulty was found. The probability was entertained that Mr. Gladstone, who had had another interview with the Queen, would withdraw his resignation and return to power with the ministry unchanged.

The City Fire Bonds.—In a case brought before the Supreme Court by a number of citizens to enjoin the city from issuing bonds for the purpose of loaning the proceeds to owners of land in the burnt district for the purpose of rebuilding, the Court has heard the arguments and delivered an opinion that the law is unconstitutional. The Legislature has authority under the constitution to empower cities and towns to raise money by taxation for public purposes, and in the opinion of the Court the purpose in question did not come under that class. The object of the law was to assist private individuals and property owners, and only incidentally could it be regarded as one of public interest. The magnitude of the calamity which created the emergency which the law was intended to meet cannot change the nature of the purpose for which the law was intended. The decision is generally approved as a question of law, but the measure was one which was thought by many of our best citizens to be a most expedient one under the circumstances, and great disappointment will be felt that it cannot be carried out. The savings banks and other financial institutions are unable to loan any money at present to aid in rebuilding, and the decision will seriously retard the renovation of the burnt district.

Our Board of Health.—We defy any city in the country, numbering the population of Boston, to show such a record on sanitary improvement as this city has since the new Board of Health was appointed in January. It has stamped out small pox as a man would stamp out fire. It has aroused our citizens to a more thorough comprehension of the needs of care and prevention in providing for a sound state of the public health. And now it is perfecting its intelligent plan, for the approaching warm season, with a view to ward off the approach of all contagious diseases and purify the city limits so that none such can find a foothold or feeding ground in case they should be inclined to enter the gates. Should cholera make its dreaded appearance on our shores during the ensuing summer, it is hazarding little to say that it will find abundant preparations made to meet it.

Gov. Dix on Foster.—The Governor of New York, in refusing to grant the request of the petitioners in the case of the murderer Foster, found it necessary to place his conduct unofficially in its true light by writing a letter to Rev. Dr. Tyng, who has been Foster's spiritual adviser, and who petitioned for the commutation of the sentence. He rests his official action wholly on what is due to society in administering justice stearily, believing that the times are surrounded with unwonted perils in respect to the license of criminals. He therefore feels called on to discharge his public duty with special regard to the exigency, hoping that Foster's execution may have a salutary effect in striking terror to the hearts of the criminal class.

The Lechmere Bank Defalcation. John Savage, Jr., the defaulting cashier of the Lechmere bank at East Cambridge, was arrested on Saturday, and was admitted to bail in the sum of fifteen thousand dollars. The arrest was made at the motion of the United States authorities.

RECEPTION TO HON. OAKES AMES.

The people of Easton and the friends of Hon. Oakes Ames in other towns in his district, in recognition of his ten years faithful services in Congress, and as a testimonial of personal regard and esteem, united in giving him a complimentary reception at his home last week. His fellow townsmen and neighbors have stood by him during all the reproach which has been attempted to be cast upon his character in the recent investigations in Congress, and have never for a moment believed him guilty of any wrongful act and especially of being guilty of attempting to bribe members of Congress. The compliment took the form of a public dinner tendered to Mr. Ames which was accepted by him.

Tables were spread for 350 persons in the High school building, which was a gift to the town by Messrs. Oliver Ames & Sons, and the occasion was marked by an unusual degree of interest and enthusiasm. Quite a number of guests were present at the invitation of the citizens. An address of welcome was made to Mr. Ames by Dr. Cogswell, to which Mr. Ames replied in a brief speech which concluded as follows:

"The whole offence, if offence it can be called, is in selling sixteen thousand dollars of stock to eleven members of Congress at the same price I paid for it, and at the same price I sold the same stock to others, and if the parties purchasing the stock had simply told the truth and said they had a right to purchase it, that would have been the end of it. But from the fact of their denial the public suspected there must be something criminal in the transaction, and to find out what the crime was, Congress appointed a committee to inquire if Oakes Ames had bribed any members of Congress.

The result was the appointment of the notorious Poland Committee. That Committee were engaged nearly three months, and the result of all their labors was badly to damage the character of some men high in office for truth and veracity. But the object of the Committee to see if Oakes Ames bribed any member was admitted not proven. But that Committee made the wonderful discovery that I was guilty in selling stock for less than it was worth, but the parties taking the stock and keeping it were very innocent; and that I had the extraordinary ability to give men a bribe without their knowing it, and to do they did not know that. That is the sum and substance of the Credit Mobilier, over which the whole country has been excited for the last six months.

Eloquent and complimentary speeches were made by H. J. Fuller, Esq., of Taunton, Hon. F. A. Hobart of Braintree, Hon. Charles W. Slack of Boston, and others. The occasion must have been exceedingly gratifying to the recipient of the compliment, and it is satisfactory to know that he stands higher than ever in the respect and esteem of his constituents and fellow citizens.

Deferred Floods.—Providence has operated His laws kindly to the people of the country in a special sense this season, in that heavy rains have not supervened upon the immense snow falls to covert them all at once into running floods to make a general devastation. The melting and evaporating March winds have acted almost magically in lightening the snowbanks of their heavy loads, so that, although there are immense bodies of snow yet remaining, unless sudden storms of rain should now follow, there need be but trifling apprehension of any trouble. It would indeed be a marvel, after such a winter as we have had, if the snow should clear itself in so gradual and harmless a manner. It would call for a Thanksgiving instead of a Fast. Under these vast areas of snow lie concealed the vigorous rootlets of grass, ready to spring fresh and verdurous as soon as the new season awakes with its sunshine and waters and birds.

The Boston and Maine Extension.—The new road built by the Boston and Maine to give it a separate and exclusive connexion from Salmon Falls to Portland, was opened for travel last Saturday. The distance is forty-four miles, and the road crosses the old one twice. It runs several miles nearer the seashore, and by reason of this proximity the traveller has many snatches of the ocean views. This will make it a popular line of travel in summer. The competition between the Boston and Maine and the Eastern roads continues, and the latter having a controlling influence with the Maine Central and other roads beyond Portland, the Boston and Maine will for the present find many obstacles in carrying on through freight and passenger business. The Legislature and the courts should inform railroad companies that they are intended to accommodate the public, and they should be compelled to do so to the fullest extent in their power, and not waste their money and incommode the public by quarrelling between themselves.

Waste Paper.—The men and boys are as busy as bees in the Washington capitol, getting out and loading up the mails with the tons of matter belonging by right to the members, because the law takes effect which abrogates the franking privilege. One mail last week delivered five tons of such matter in Boston, of which immense amount two tons belonged to a member from Maine. The people will naturally rejoice to see an end of a practice which has thus grown into an abuse. Perhaps the abolition of franking will do away with a great deal of the partisan feeling in coming general elections. But as soon as the mails are at liberty to pass over the highways of transportation unclogged by the untold car-loads of free Congressional matter, the wants of the people who pay their postage will be better served, and a two cent rate can be brought forward again with some chance of success.

Secretary of the Treasury.—The President on Monday nominated Hon. William A. Richardson of Massachusets a, as Secretary of the Treasury, to succeed Mr. Boutwell, and he was confirmed by the Senate without opposition. Whatever Judge Richardson's ability, and we have never heard it questioned, for the position, the people of Massachusetts, and especially his friends in this vicinity, who are legion, know that no person ever brought to the office higher integrity, principle, and freedom from every kind of association which can ever tempt him to sacrifice his duty to the country for private gain, or for the advantage of any set of men. He is as free from partizan bias and control as we can ever expect a cabinet officer to be.

St. Patrick.—Whether a myth or a matter of fact, this honored saint's name has the power to sway an entire people to the influences of his traditional character. It shows the eternal energy of what is good in the world, for it is no warrior hero who is venerated under that name, but a simple, gentle, mild preacher and worker of religion, whose task in life was but to benefit his fellow men. Twenty thousand Irish people in Boston gave last Monday to the celebration of his deserved praises. So many were willing and eager to abandon the toils of their life, that they might bestow one day to the memory of good St. Patrick. If one whose very name is mythical is able to work such results, who shall say that living benevolence can at any time come short of recognition and a marked reward?

American Contribution to the Vienna Exposition.—The executive commissioner in charge of the office in Washington for the Vienna Exposition says there will be 555 more exhibitors than there were at Paris in 1867. Over 150 firms contribute specimens of machinery in motion, and will occupy a space of about 13,000 square feet. The specimens, which include almost every machine capable of being propelled by steam power, will be run by American made engines. In this particular improvement is made upon the Paris Exposition, where our machinery was run by foreign steam power.

The American Geographical publications will reflect credit upon the United States. Among the articles exhibited will be a large collection of volumes of printed statistics, over two thousand in number, surveys, maps and other objects of interest, including photographs of the mountainous regions of the country. One of the most interesting features of the American Department will be a collection of over seven thousand American weekly, daily and monthly periodicals. It appears that about twenty-five firms engaged in the manufacture of agricultural implements have sent specimens and will occupy a space of 15,000 square feet. The implements will be placed so that their merits can be easily tested and comparisons be made with other nations.

Begging Letters.—George Peabody had a dismal experience with the letter begging fraternity, which he had good reason to believe constituted the larger portion of the human race, but the famous patent medicine man, Holloway, who has made sixty millions of dollars in traffic, enjoys a personal experience quite the equal of his Crœsus-like predecessor. It is astonishing to what depths of selfdegradation some people will descend, in order to get a chance to get money. People beg of Holloway for every imaginable want or device: to help them into business, to help them to marry, to relieve their few years on earth, to bring out a poem or an invention, to demonstrate genius and worth in an incalculable number of forms, and for what they could not but be ashamed to ask if they were forced to stand up openly and do it. Holloway is finding out what a perfect bore too much money is. Of course everybody knows he cannot spend it on himself, and consequently supposes he accumulated it on purpose to give away to lazy idle beggars.

The Legislature.—The bill authorizing towns to furnish school books to all the scholars in the public schools has been passed. The resolution to amend the constitution so as to allow women the right of suffrage and of holding office was rejected, after considerable debate, by almost two to one in the House. The vote in its favor was not so large as that of previous years. The House fully debated for two days last week the proposition to rescind or expunge the resolution of censure on Senator Sumner, passed the last session, and many eloquent speeches were made for and against. The subject was postponed.

A bill has been reported to establish a hospital for the insane in the north-eastern part of the State, for the accommodation of four hundred patients, the cost not to exceed $650,000. The Committee are unanimous in their report, and state that the hospitals are all crowded beyond their capacity to accommodate patients, the accommodation being for 1050 patients, while there are 1530 in the hospitals. Suffolk and Essex counties are the only ones in the State which have maintained local hospitals, and Boston has for thirty-three years supported her own patients, besides paying one-third of the cost of the State hospitals. The Committee believe Boston has the right to demand, and the State cannot refuse to make provision for her insane. With an annual increase of insane, before a new hospital can be erected there will be 630 patients to be provided for. The location is to accommodate the three largest counties in the State, which now have some distance to send such patients as are provided for in the State hospitals.

Minister Gladstone.—It is not often in English politics that, when a Minister has been unseated by an adverse vote of the House of Commons, he is forced back into his place because the opposition that overthrew him cannot muster the necessary strength to form a government. But this happens to be the experience of Mr. Gladstone, who, whatever his faults as a public man, is too strongly seated in the hearts and minds of the English Liberals to be set aside by any technical vote on a single point of his comprehensive public policy. Mr. Disraeli was requested by the Queen to form a ministry if it were possible, but both he and Derby forbore to enter upon an experiment of whose event they had no sort of certainty. So Gladstone sails the English ship of State as before, until he may run upon another reef like that of the Irish Educational Bill.

The Secretary of the Treasury.—Judge Richardson, who was Assistant Secretary under Mr. Boutwell, has been promoted by the President to the position and responsibility of Secretary. The place was vigorously contested by New York, Philadelphia, and Western interests, but a Massachusetts man was fated to bear off the prize. Though Judge Richardson's training has by no means been in finance, he has manifested remarkable aptitude in the matter of the public finances since he was invited to a place in the Treasury; and if he shall now prove himself equal to the full position whose large responsibilities he has been summoned to assume, he will make a reputation and do a public service that is permitted to very few men in the country.

The City Water Supply.—The Water Board of Boston have made extensive investigations with a view of deciding upon the best and least expensive means of providing a supply of pure water for the city, and to meet the demand which it is estimated will increase at the rate of seven per cent a year. To enable the city to have the benefit of the increased supply obtained from Sudbury river, a new conduit is found to be necessary, at an expense of nearly five million dollars, and the work would take four years, during which the city will have to get along on its present supply. Taking from Charles River is seriously contemplated, and a point somewhere between Newton Upper and Lower Falls is found to be the best place to take from. It is estimated that a daily supply of more than a hundred million gallons could be drawn from Charles River.

Widening the Streets.—The City Government is inclined at this time to make some improvements, and of an expensive character, for which the fire unexpectedly afforded the opportunity, and the question in its various bearings has provoked a good deal of discussion in committee, in the city council, and in the newspapers. Nearly three mil lions are already added to the city debt for what has been done, and the City Auditor estimates at least two millions more. But how much farther it may be proper to go is a question. Some people think the Fire has gone far enough, without adding to its devastation. And they oppose the destruction of valuable taxable property in what Mr. Marshall P. Wilder felicitously calls the "business heart and soul of the city."

The Great Strike of Labor.—A comprehensive "strike" of all branches of mechanical labor is organizing in New York, to be precipitated in a month or less, and it is apprehended with good reason that it will cause more serious mischief to all the interests of industry than any similar undertaking yet launched on the community. It seems a great pity that labor and capital cannot come to some sort of an understanding, without entailing all this waste in doing so. No doubt it could, theoretically considered, but the trouble lies in the adjustment of individual cases, which group and unite around a common standard in order to obtain a hearing at all. Labor is now accused of demanding higher wages for less work, and all the laws of economy are against such a principle as that. The dispute will finally be settled on a very different basis.

The Hoodlums.—That is the name by which the lounging, idle, vagrant class of young men and boys in San Francisco is known. Their existence is said to be a natural offshoot from the gambling passions which pervade all classes in that locality. San Francisco has yet to make a legitimate business reputation. The consequence of such a population's neglecting steady and patient industry, for the games of speculation and chance, putting forth no personal exertions but trusting everything to luck, is to be seen in the large crop of unemployed young men and lads, who are coming on to be the pests of society and to forbid any real progress in the civilization around them. The case is one of a perfect demoralization of the young classes of San Francisco. That it will seriously retard its commercial growth needs no special demonstration. Young men who are taught to live by their wits will never become models of industry.

An Inebriate Asylum.—A timely effort is making before the Legislature to establish a public Inebriate Asylum, for the refuge of the wretched men and women whose uncontrolled appetites are fast bringing them down to irretrievable ruin. Such an institution, supported by state care and funds, would be the very height and glory of benevolence. There are thousands of miserable beings, all fellow-creatures, whose talents and prospects have been blighted, in many instances forever, by this deplorable frenzy for strong potations. It is a disease, and must be treated as such. Science declares it to be worthy of efforts to cure it, instead of visiting it with punishment. Even with the certainty of a prohibitory law, an inebriate asylum will be found none the less necessary.

Condition of Chicago.—This proud triumph of modern civilization, at the head of Lake Michigan, is to-day rich and prosperous. She has collected the bulk of her debts, and is consequently in the way of paying her own. She holds heavy stocks of all kinds, while the increase of her traffic with the seaboard is something marvellous. The fire may have sobered the enthusiastic habit of her devotedly loyal citizens, but it could not burn out their energies. They are on their feet again, having come out of a tedious, dull, and unprofitable winter in a triumphant state of feeling. An easy money market for Chicago means easy money also for a vast area of country extending from that city in every direction.

Killing Lovers.—It is fashionable for lovers, very young lovers in particular, to kill and be killed. A mere boy down in a town in Maryland recently shot the "girl of his choice," in the course of a walk home with her from school, and because she had not made just such a response to his manly love letters as he thought they deserved. Then he ran to the woods, and after a time emerged and threw himself under the wheels of a passing train. And there ends the story. But the lesson is a much longer one. These juveniles are become too forward and bold; they are hatefully precocious; they attempt to play the parts of men and women before it is time to put on the clothes that are the tokens of manhood and womanhood That is the matter. What they want is to be severely let alone and not petted and pampered so much. They want to feel that they are nothing but children.

The Secretary of the Treasury.—Mr. Boutwell's election to the United States Senate from Massachusetts appeared to give much satisfaction to his many friends at Washington. He waited some days before being sworn in, and there was much gossip as to who would be his successor. Judge Richardson was spoken of as the most prominent candidate. The change will not involve a change in the policy of the Department.

READ AND RUN.

—The murderers are beginning to get thinned out a little, and the public will soon breathe freer.

—The March winds are wrestling with the mud like all possessed.

—We now have a postal treaty with Norway and Sweden.

—Congressmen are hurrying up their tons of free matter from Washington, before the franking privilege runs out.

—Just as soon as the suns clear up the mud and snow, Boston will spring to the work of restoration with a will.

—Good hopes are entertained on all sides for a fine business season throughout the country.

—Bishop McIlvaine, of Ohio, just deceased in Italy, was seventy-five years of age, and one of the most marked men in the Episcopal communion in the country.

—Train is making such a loud noise about the interior condition of the New York Tombs, in a sanitary point of view, that the legislature is thinking of sending down a commission to inquire into it.

—The contest of the rival Louisiana Senators is not to be determined by the Senate at the present session.

—The railway war in New Jersey is at fever heat.

—Gen. Fremont stoutly denies all connexion with fraud in the Texan Pacific Road.

—It is a difficult matter to get Disraeli to take power in England, and the Gladstone Ministry are likely to be reinstated without a break.

—The condition of Spain is such that the Cubans are greatly encouraged to believe they can secure their independence before the year is out.

—King Amadeus speaks of his brief reign in Spain as a two years of masquerading in royalty.

—It is estimated that more people are paying for life insurance every year in this country than are directly paying taxes.

—The jury question is exciting very wide and serious discussions in New York, especially in connexion with the trial of cases of insanity.

—The Maryland murder of a very young girl by a very young lad, because his feelings were not fully reciprocated or something, has drawn out the reflection that too much stuff is crammed into the heads of modern children, who are treated like grown up people when they should not be treated at all.

—A deficiency in the returns of the warehouse business of the New York custom house exists, amounting to twenty million dollars.

—The Post Office question is the engrossing one before the citizens of Boston at present.

—The enterprising individual who wrote the biography of Jay Gould began business by suing his subject because he did not like the work well enough to purchase a couple of dozen copies.

—A bale of cotton weighing four hundred and fifty pounds has been shipped for Vienna, which was packed in blue silk reps and ornamented trimmings, costing without the cotton one thousand dollars.

—A man has been overhauled in London for pursuing the calling of a letter-writing beggar, and sentenced to seven years of penal servitude. Perhaps he will continue to write letters from the colony.

—Senator Morton is bringing out a scheme for the annexation of Canada, an event for which the people of the Dominion are said to be much less prepared now than they were some years ago.

—Two thirds or more of the business transacted at Honolulu is done by Americans, and the new King of the Sandwich Islands is anxious that the people of the United States shall generally enjoy the first cut there.

—John Bright is booked for permanent retirement from the British parliament, his health permitting him to remain in public life not much longer.

—Hon. James Ritchie, formerly United States Assessor for one of the Boston Districts, went down in the steam yacht Grace Darling last Sunday off Duxbury.

—The Illinois farmers are making sore complaints against the action of the Governor.

—Gen. Grant's family and the clerks, formerly "copyists," of Washington have recently had an addition to their salaries.

—Only colored handkerchiefs are carried in Paris, which everybody who waves a pocket-flag in this country should know.

—There are none but male convicts in the Minnesota penitentiary, which should make them ashamed forever to look a woman in the face.

Three millions in the bagnio'le devoted to the erection of the new Philadelphia Post Office, which is to be constructed of granite. That is about the price of the Boston building.

—The southern ice-gorges have been gradually breaking up, and without doing any such mischief as has been feared from them.

—Mr. Boutwell received the general congratulations of the Senate on taking his seat in that body last Monday.

—It is said that Senator Pomeroy of Kansas will take up his permanent residence in Washington, having already purchased a house in that city.

—Holloway, the great English pill man, has accumulated sixty millions of dollars. He is a cultured man and very benevolent, and wears the title of "the English Peabody."

—Chinese handicraftsmen are working into Pennsylvania, too.

—Hair pins seem to be an unusually dangerous article of wear in the heads of girls, at the present time.

—Farmers, now that ploughing time is approaching, will soon be placing their shares where they will do most good.

—Postmaster Jones, of New York, has resigned because of the great responsibility of the situation, he being held personally accountable for the conduct of all subordinates.

—The degeneracy of the horse has been brought into the English parliament as a question for debate, and it has been shown that the animal has not degenerated after all.

—A Boston merchant, who failed here in 1861 on account of the war, has since paid up all his debts with interest. He removed immediately to New York.

—The Modoc Indian question appears to be in as much of a tangle as the Utah question and with as poor a prospect of a speedy solution.

—There is great liveliness in the burnt district at the present time, building operations being pushed with great vigor.

—Haunted houses and ghost stories are now delivered upon an eager market with a regularity that will soon make them worthy of being placed in the list of quotations.

—Judy ironically says that the works of Thomas Aquinas are to be translated into English.

—The way they raise their minister's salaries in Kansas towns is by giving a ball, which would hardly be thought orthodox everywhere.

—Vermont is sappy once more, and the land flows with honey, if not with milk.

—Wall street will never be satisfied with sensations. A general forgery of railroad securities is the last excitement among the money changers.

—The creditors of the failed Bowles Brothers are holding meetings and proving claims against them. "Josey" Mansfield appears with one of ten thousand dollars.

—The Grace Irving was sunk in the gale of last Sunday off Duxbury, with all on board.

—The seven hundred pictures of the artist Kensett have been on exhibition in New York, for sale at auction. He kept so many of his creations about him to the last, that it was very difficult to pick up a Kensett in an auction room.

—The gale of Sunday did a great deal of damage across the country, throwing down telegraph wires without mercy at the South and West.

—Judge Richardson at last has the Treasuryship, though there are rumors that he may resign in December.

—St. Patrick's Day was a windy affair hereabouts, and banners were not an easy circumstance to carry in a procession.

Sad Disaster.—Last Sunday morning the little steam yacht Grace Darling, of about forty tons, left Boston on a trip to New Bedford in charge of Capt. Benj. F. Lowden of New Bedford, with several gentlemen on board, one of whom was Hon. James Ritchie, a former Mayor of Roxbury. The yacht had just been purchased by the latter gentleman in company with others, and they were taking her to New Bedford for use as a pleasure boat. The wind changed and increased to a gale from the northwest by noon, and about two o'clock the vessel was seen in distress off Plymouth harbor; she soon afterwards went down and all on board were drowned, the sea running so high that a boat could not live. Mr. Ritchie was about fifty-seven years old, and had held many offices of trust in the city, state, and United States governments.

☞ The greatest novelty of modern medical and chemical science is found in Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Purgative Pellets, or Sugar Coated, Concentrated Root and Herbal Juice, Anti-Bilious Granules—scarcely larger than a mustard seed, yet possessing as much cathartic power as the old style of large, repulsive pills, while they are more easily taken and are pleasant in effect. 25 cents a vial, by Druggists.

☞ Use the Eureka Machine twist and Eureka Button Hole twist. They will give perfect satisfaction.

FOREIGN TELEGRAMS.

GREAT BRITAIN.

PROBABLE RESUMPTION OF THE PREMIERSHIP BY MR. GLADSTONE.

London, March 17.—Mr. Gladstone will probably resume the premiership. In the Commons this afternoon he stated that last evening he received a communication from the Queen announcing that there was no prospect that the opposition would form a new government. He replied, placing his services at Her Majesty's disposal and undertaking to consult with his colleagues. They were now engaged in considering what steps they should take, and he proposed that meanwhile the House adjourn until Thursday.

Disraeli said that he had informed the Queen that he was quite prepared to organize a new ministry, but could not undertake to carry on the government with the present Parliament. The House then adjourned until Thursday.

In the House of Lords Earl Granville made a statement identical with that of Mr. Gladstone in the other chamber, and the Duke of Richmond repeated Disraeli's explanation. The sitting was then adjourned till Thursday.

FRANCE.

THE WAR INDEMNITY—TREATY CONCLUDED FOR THE FINAL PAYMENT.

Paris, March 16.—President Thiers and Count Von Arnim, the German Ambassador, have signed a convention on the part of their respective governments for the payment of the fifth milliard of francs of the war indemnity by instalments. The final payment is to be made on the 5th of September next. The German forces are to evacuate all the places they now hold in France by the first of July, with the exception of Verdun and vicinity, which they are to withdraw from on the fifth of September.

PRUSSIA.

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

Berlin, March 11.—The German Parliament convened to-day. His Majesty the Emperor William opened the session in person. In his speech the Emperor said that he believed the negotiations now in progress would result in the entire evacuation of France by German troops at an earlier day than had been expected.

SPAIN.

THE CARLISTS—GOVERNMENT DEFEAT IN THE NORTH.

Madrid, March 13.—It is rumored that the Army of the North, under command of Gen. Moriones, has suffered a check from the Carlists and retreated to Pampeluna to reorganize. Gen. Novillas's losses are said to have been considerable.

Paris, March 13.—Letters from the frontier give particulars of an engagement on the 7th inst., in the north of Spain, between a band of Carlists, under Santeria, and a force of Government troops. The insurgents, it is said, entrenched on the heights of Arjarovn, were attacked by the national troops. A long and obstinate fight took place, resulting in the defeat of the Government force, which was compelled to retreat with a loss of 100 men. Saroveta was mortally wounded. The Spanish commander in his official report of the engagement, claimed that the Carlists were defeated.

A despatch from Madrid to-day states that the Government has received intelligence of the defeat of the Carlist force, numbering 2000 men, under the command of Dorregardy. Many of the insurrectionists were killed.

ASSEMBLY PROCEEDINGS.

Madrid, March 12.—The Assembly yesterday definitely sanctioned the bill, introduced by the Government, suspending sittings and convoking a constituent Cortes the 1st of May. Senor Martos, President of the Assembly, and Senor Lopes, Secretary, have resigned.

Senor Martos, in tendering his resignation, made the statement that the act was caused solely by ill health. Debate on the Republican Abolition bill has been resumed in the Assembly.

A CRISIS ANTICIPATED.

In the Spanish Assembly, to-day, the Government offered to postpone the elections for one month, if the proposition is rejected, the Cabinet will resign, the Republican members retire, and armed conflicts will commence.

CARLIST DEPREDATIONS—RAILROAD TRAIN ATTACKED.

Madrid, March 13.—An express train from Madrid for Castruella was thrown from the track to-day, by Carlists near Villa Franca. While the train was thus disabled the insurgents opened fire and killed the engineer, firemen and two passengers. The passengers and guards barricaded themselves in a neighboring house, from which they began a brisk fire of pistols and musketry. The Carlists finally took to flight, and a Government force shortly afterwards coming upon the scene, set out in pursuit. The band fled toward Monte Acosta.

THREE THOUSAND CARLISTS ROUTED BY GOVERNMENT TROOPS.

Madrid, March 16.—The Government has received despatches announcing that 3000 Carlists concentrated at Vera had been routed by Gen. Nordan after a fight of three hours, followed by several hours. The Carlists, who sought refuge in the village, were badly received. Gen. Nevillas actively pressing forward the campaign in the north.

AMERICAN HONORS TO SENOR FIGUERAS.

Barcelona, March 16.—Senor Figueras, accompanied by the Civil Governor of the province and Henry Ruggles, United States Consul, today visited the United States squadron in this port and were received with full honors on board of the steamers Brooklyn and Shenandoah. Capt. Rogerson, of the Brooklyn, proposed the health of Hon. Hamilton Fish. The President responded by paying tribute to Minister Washburne, and thanking the Americans for their expressions of sympathy with the new Republic.

Vienna Expedition—*Boston at the Educational Department.* The contribution of the city of Boston to Group 26, at the Exposition, which comprises "education, teaching and instruction," has just been shipped by Adams Express to the Brooklyn Navy Yard, to be put on board the United States vessel, bound for Trieste. Some idea of the bulk of the articles forwarded may be obtained from the fact that two thousand feet of lumber were used in making the thirty boxes in which they were packed.

The aim in making up the collection was to represent as fully as possible the school architecture of the city, the school fittings, furnishings, apparatus, books, maps, charts, globes, and every description of appliances which are found in our best equipped schools of the different grades, from the classes of Primaries up to the highest classes of our High schools, and, also, to present a fair specimen of scholars' work in all the grades so far as is practicable to show it on paper by pen and pencil. Completing the whole by sets of reports and documents giving full information as to the history, organization, administration, methods of instruction, regulations and present condition of the city system of public instruction.

The School Committee have allowed Mr. Philbrick, the superintendent, an extension of the usual vacation, to enable him to attend the Exposition at Vienna, and to visit educational institutions in different countries of Europe, to acquire information for the improvement of our system of schools, but no provision has been made by the School Committee or City Council to defray his expenses.

Our New England Fishermen.—Since the Fisheries Clause of the Treaty of Washington has passed into the operative form of law by the action of Congress, the Dominion parliament, and the English parliament, much speculation is indulged in respecting the effect it will have on our fishing interests. We are glad to note that a paper so well informed on the subject as the *Eastern Argus*, of Portland, is decidedly inclined to look at the matter in a hopeful light. It professes to believe, in spite of the free competition now extended to provincial fishermen with our own in the markets of the United States, that in five years our fishery business will be very much enlarged and more important than it ever has been, which we sincerely hope may be the case.

Mail Robberies.—There is complaint of a very large robbery of the mails between the East and St. Louis during the last two months, the crime beginning about the last of January. Drafts to a very large amount have been taken out, J. C. Ayer & Co. being among the heavy losers. Detectives are on the track, but the more is already out of the stable. We ourselves know of several drafts from Boston that have been lost about the time mentioned, and they are unquestionably the plunder of the villain who has thus enriched himself temporarily at others expense. Buffalo papers think they have a clue to the mystery, and we really hope they have.

AN AGRICULTURAL ANECDOTE.—A Danbury young man who was once a clerk, lately went on a farm to work. The first night in his new position he was detailed to remove a calf from the apartment of its parent to another shed, and while engaged, as thousands have been before him, in shoving the contrary beast along, the mother reached under the tails of his coat with her horns, and suddenly lifted him up against the roof of the building with a force that threatened to shatter every bone in his body. The first thing he did on returning to earth was to rub himself, the next thing was to throw up his place. He said he didn't doubt that agriculture was a noble pursuit, and that the farmer needed an assistant in the discharge of the multifarious duties, but he didn't believe he was designed for making skylights in cow sheds.

—*Danbury News.*

☞ At a meeting of the Dairymen of Vermont, held at St Johnsbury, Mr. Gleason, well known for the superior quality of his butter, was asked what churn he used. He said he used "The Blanchard Churn." A voice in the crowd cried, "The best churn out," and it was echoed from one side to the other, "That's so," "That's so."

☞ A refreshing and valuable Spring Medicine will be discovered in AYWOON'S QUININE TONIC BITTERS. In cases of weak stomach, loss of appetite, dyspepsia, nervous debility, fever and ague, jaundice and restlessness, they give signal benefit.

CURE FOR COUGH OR COLD.—As soon as there is the slightest uneasiness of the Chest, with difficulty of breathing, or indication of Cough, take during the day a few "*Brown's Bronchial Troches.*" mh8-3t*

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

☞ Messrs. *Lee & Shepard* have just issued a sketch of the *Jubilee Singers* and their campaign for twenty thousand dollars, whose performances have been so popular for the past year. It is written by G. D. Pike, and contains engravings of all the members from photographs. It is a very interesting narrative.

☞ The *Wishing Cap Papers*, by Leigh Hunt, are now collected for the first time, and published in handsome form by Messrs. Lee & Shepard, Boston. They are written in the happiest style and manner of their author, and the volume is enriched by the addition of a number of miscellaneous essays and sketches.

☞ *Perterson's Magazine* for April is a fine number for the ladies, as it is full of elegant fashion plates and designs for garments, which are going to be in vogue in the spring. The stories and shorter articles are contributed by the best writers.

☞ *Our Young Folks* for April presents a host of attractions for the young people. The names of the contributors form a brilliant list. J. T. Trowbridge adds three chapters to his story of "Doing for the Best," and is followed by Mrs. Diaz, Sam Eytinge, Elizabeth Stuart Phelps, Mary N. Prescott and others. N. A. Eliot, a new contributor, has a "Talk about the Telegraph," with six illustrations.

The Case of McElhaney.—The Supreme Court has given a hearing on the motion for a new trial of McElhany, under sentence of death for the murder of his wife, and after due consideration the motion for a new trial was refused. The Court, as was stated, was satisfied on the whole evidence that there was no reasonable doubt of the sanity of the prisoner, and said that to decide otherwise would be a reproach to the judiciary of Massashusetts, and the Court would be false to their consciences and derelict in their judicial duty. McElhaney's execution had been fixed by the Governor for Friday the 21st, and the petition for commutation of sentence had been refused.

Marine Items.

WHALERS.

A letter from Captain Ryder, of barque Swallow, of NB, dated Dec 30, reports her at sea, with 1800 bbls oil. Also reports barque Mermaid, Horan, of Westport, with 1350 bbls oil.

A letter from Capt. Baker, of barque Hercules, of NB. reports her at Albany, NH, Jan. 3, having shipped his oil (450 bbls sp and 60 wh) by barque Stanbrook, for New Bedford.

A letter from Capt Hamblin, of barque Islander, of NB, reports her at Albany, NH, Dec 30, having shipped 340 bbls sp oil by barque Stamboul. Bound to cruise, and be at Hobart, Town in March.

A letter from Capt. Mitchell, of barque Stamboul, of NB, reports her at Albany, NH, Jan 4, with 540 bbls sp and 70 do wh oil on board, and oil on freight from barques Islander and Hercules, bound home, and expected to arrive in May.

Spoken—Feb 20, off Collins Island, barque Louisa Nye, of NB, reported whales scarce—had taken two this season.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

☞ WHITNEY'S NEATS FOOT HARNESS SOAP leaves nothing to be desired but the money to purchase it with. It surpasses anything of the kind ever introduced. mh22-1t

☞ **Wilbor's Cod Liver Oil and Lime.**—The great popularity of this safe and efficacious preparation is proof positive of its intrinsic worth. In the sure of Coughs, Colds, Asthmas, Bronchitis, Whooping Cough, Scrofulous Humors, and all Consumptive Symptoms, it has no equal. Physicians have used it in nearly all early symptoms of disease, when an agent is thus at hand which will alleviate all complaints of the Chest, Lungs or Throat. Prepared only by A. B. Wilbor, Chemist, No. 166 Court Street, Boston. Sold by all druggists. mh22-1

New Advertisements.

FARMERS AND MERCHANTS
OF NEW ENGLAND.

WE have and are now receiving in Store a large and complete assortment of the celebrated LION PLOUGHS, the Mohawk Valley Clipper PLOUGHS.

Ploughs, Doe, Eagle and Prouty & Mears

PLOUGHS.

Nishwitz's Pulverizing Harrows, Thomas's Patent Smoothing Harrow, Shares', Fitch, Geddes' Improved Hinge and other one and two horse

HARROWS.

Forest Cast Steel and Iron Teeth

CULTIVATORS.

Wood Iron and Steel Horse Hoes, Hay Cutters, Wheelbarrows and Stone Trucks, Truce and Draft Chains, Parting Bushes, Ox Yokes and Bows, Harrington's and Holbrook's

SEED SOWERS,

Dough Cuttings and Spoons for all kinds of Ploughs in use; Grindstones and Grindstone Irons; Blanchard, Frost and Cylinder

CHURNS,

Reach and Fish

Clothes Wringers,

Copper and Gilt Weather Vanes, Stable Furniture, Cistern and Force Pumps, including the celebrated Curtenius Pump, Rain Pumps, Water Drawers; Excelsior, Hand and Horse

LAWN MOWERS,

Archibalds Lawn Mowers; the Improved New Model Buckeye

MOWING MACHINE,

Ballard's Improved Hay Tedders. Together with an agent variety of

Tools suitable for Garden and Farm use

to be had in this country, at the

LOWEST CASH PRICES,

—AT—

PARKER & GANNETT'S

Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store,

Nos. 49 North Market St., and

46 Merchants Row, Boston.

mh22-2t

A. J. VOSE,

Dealer in Pure Bred

BUFF COCHINS,

—AND—

RED LEGHORNS,

School St., Dorchester, Mass.

EGGS FOR HATCHING IN SEASON.

Send for Circular. mh22-6t

FURNITURE!

BONNEY, THAYER & WIGHT,

56 & 58 Union, and

43 & 45 Friend Street,

MANUFACTURERS AND DEALERS IN

FURNITURE,

BEDDING, &c.

Upholstering done on the premises.

EVERY ARTICLE WARRANTED

AS REPRESENTED.

—AND—

SOLD CHEAP FOR CASH.

mh22-13t

Western Nebraska.

THE subscriber, engaged in Stock Raising and Farming in the above section, just setting up, wishes to keep the services of a young married man who has few children. Must be familiar with the care of stock and with farming, and of *American* birth. It shall be in force about April 1st. Address *at once*, C. F. BLAKE, Fort Platte, Nebraska. mh22-3t*

Farm for Sale,

Situated about ¼ mile west from New Salem Village, Mass. Said Farm contains about 125 acres, suitably divided into mowing, pasturage and tillage, also has thereon a valuable timber lot; village complete of modern 2 story brick House, Barn 56x4 with cellar under whole, with other outbuildings, all in good repair, and running water at House and Barn. For further particulars, apply to the subscriber,

NELSON HASKINS,
New Salem, Mass.

mh22-4t*

For Sale

IN EAST MEDWAY,

The residence and Farm of the late Dr. Amory Gale, 2 story House with L, connecting with barn, with cellar, about 50 acres, nicely divided and well watered, cranberry meadow, pine etc.; very near depot, church and schools. Price Apply to Mas. M. GALE, on the premises, or to ALFRED JAMES, 102 State Street, Boston.

mh22-3t

New Advertisements.

J. BRECK & SONS,

Have the finest collection of

EARLY AND LATE PEAS,

as well as

VEGETABLE

—AND—

FLOWER SEEDS

of all kinds to be found in the country. In their collection are the following:

EARLY PEAS.	LATE PEAS.
Carter's First Crop,	Champion of England,
Dixon's First and Best,	Napoleon, or Climax,
Carmichaels [Waite's,]	Bugonie, or Alliance,
Dan'l O'Rourke,	Blue Imperial,
Tom Thumb,	Missouri Marrowfat,
Early Kent,	German "
Laxton's Long Pod,	Blackeyed "
Laxton's Alpha,	Large Late "
Little Gems,	
McLean's Advancer.	

For full list of EARLY and LATE CABBAGES, CAULIFLOWERS, &c., as well as all varieties of VEGETABLES and FLOWERS, send for Descriptive Catalogue, which will be sent free on application.

Joseph Breck & Sons,

51 & 52 No. Market St.

mh22-1t

NITROGENOUS

PHOSPHATE.

THIS Phosphate contains a very large percentage of AMMONIA and PHOSPHORIC ACID, and as a Fertiliser has no superior. It has been in use for three (3) years and has met with unusual results. As a TOBACCO FERTILIZER it has no equal.

OSCAR FOOTE & CO.,

Manufacturers' Office, 51 Blackstone St.

BOSTON.

WE ARE ALSO DEALERS IN

Tallow, Bone and Grease, Beef and Pork Scraps, Ground and in Cakes, Ground Oyster Shell for Fowls.

Send for Circular. mh22-13t

EXTRA CHOICE ONION SEED.

THE difference in value of a crop of Onions grown from the seed usually sold, and that raised from extra selected Onions, is usually from one to two hundred dollars an acre; the difference between the cost of the two qualities of seed to plant an acre is from six to eight dollars.

I offer to the public NEW SEED OF MY OWN GROWING, raised from these EXTRA SELECTED ONIONS, at the following prices, viz:

Danvers Early Yellow Globe, ℔ lb...$4,00
Early Red Globe.....$4,00
Southport Late Red Globe.....$4,00

A liberal discount on large lots.

My Catalogue (free to all) contains many letters from those who have used my seed.

☞ An Illustrated Treatise on Onion Raising, giving every step, sent to any address for 30 cents.

JAMES J. H. GREGORY,
Marblehead, Mass.

mh22-2t

POTATO BLIGHT.

A REMEDY.

Reed's Agricultural Compound.

THE COMPOUND is composed of materials crude and chemical, specially Destructive to the *Fungus insects* living on the roots of the Potato vines, which are the cause of this destructive disease. Farmers will find the *compound* a remedy for *Potato Blight and Rot*, and a good fertilizer for the soil.

AMES PLOW COMPANY,
Quincy Hall, Boston.

☞ Send for circular. mh22-1t

BOYNTON'S SELF-CLEARING

Gas-Tight Furnace,

Has proved to be the most durable and powerful Furnace ever introduced, THOUSANDS OF them being in use at the present time. The closest scrutiny is invited in the assurance that the more strict the examination, the more it will commend itself.

Every part is Cast Iron.

Every Joint is Horizontal and Double Packed, making the escape of GAS IMPOSSIBLE.

It is Self-Clearing.

It is Economical.

It is adapted to all classes of Buildings.

SOLE AGENTS FOR NEW ENGLAND,

GEO. W. WHITE & CO.,

mh22-13t 19 Elm St., Boston, Mass.

Pure Blooded Fowls Eggs.

LIGHT BRAHMA, Dark Brahma, Partridge Cochin, and Buff Cochin of as good strain as any in the country. Also Rouen Ducks Eggs for sale, by the subscriber at $2 00 per dozen. WM. G. PRESCOTT,
Quincy, Mass.

mh22-4t

Eggs and Fowls.

DOMINIQUES, a specialty, Eggs from 9 trios, premium birds. I breed this variety, because I believe for all purposes they have no equal. Eggs $2.00 per dozen. M. J. ELLIS.
Norwood, Mass.

mh22-13t*

Wanted,

A FIRST CLASS MILKER, and one who understands the care of Cows and handling of Horses, to work on my farm. Apply in person at my farm.

G. L. KNAPP,
mh22-3t* North Bridgewater, Mass.

CHINA AND CROCKERY, call or send for lists. GUY C. & BROTHERS, No. 33 BEDFORD STREET, BOSTON.

mh22-4t

OH HUSH! 1 pack trick Cards, curious Puzzle, 10 000 valuable Receipts, Songs, Nice Picture Cartoonancy, Bird Imitator, Rare Wonders, Apparitions, Fire Juggling Secrets, Black Arts, Magic, etc., all by mail, 25 cents. KANE & CO., Lock Box 130, Central Falls, R. I.

mh22-1t*

BECKWITH SEWING MACHINE--$12.

ON 30 DAYS' TRIAL!!

THE IMPROVED ($12) BECKWITH SEWING MACHINE, with new Braiding Foot, and many other important improvements, all complete, with Hemmer, Guide, Four Needles, etc., warranted two years,—with care it will do your family sewing for a lifetime. Nearly ten thousand of these machines have been sold the past season, which WITHOUT the above improvements are giving universal satisfaction. We will show letters to any one who may call, from disinterested purchasers, in which they state that they would not exchange ours for the best high priced machine in the market. It makes the popular Elastic Loop Stitch, and closes its seam securely, which renders it the strongest and best; yet when desired it can be unlocked at pleasure. Fastened to any table. Easily worked by hand. This is the machine which Messrs. Orange Judd & Co., of the American Agriculturist, etc., use so many thousands for premiums. Full directions go with every machine. If after having the machine 30 days, it does not give perfect satisfaction, we will refund the $12, on return of machine, less the Express charges, and take the risk of its being injured. All orders promptly filled on receipt of Post Office order for $12, or if $3 are sent with your order to us, the balance can be paid to the Express Co., when you receive the machine. Terms to Agents liberal, but cash invariably for ALL machines when received. If any doubt our honor or responsibility, we will cheerfully give the best city reference. Bring or send sample of any goods with which to test the machine.

BECKWITH SEWING MACHINE CO.,
26 West Broadway, N. Y. (After May 1st, 862 Broadway.)

mh22-4t

A Man of a Thousand.

A CONSUMPTIVE CURED.

DR. H. JAMES, a retired Physician, (and by nature a chemist,) discovered, while in the East Indies, a certain cure for *Consumption, Asthma, Bronchitis* and *General Debility*, when his only child, a daughter, was given up to die. His child was cured, and is now alive and well. Desirous of benefitting humanity, he will send the recipe, containing full directions for making this remedy, free, on receipt of two stamps to pay expenses. There is not a single symptom of Consumption that it does not at once take hold of and dissipate. *Night Sweats, Prevailness, Irritation of the Nerves, Failure of Memory, Difficult Expectoration, Sharp Pains in the Lungs, Sore Throat, Chilly Sensations, Nausea at the Stomach, Inaction of the Bowels and Wasting away of the Muscles.* Address

CHADDOCK & CO.,
1,033 Race Street, Philadelphia, Pa.,
giving name of "*Massachusetts Ploughman.*"

mh22-18t

MARK PITMAN,

NO. BEVERLY, MASS.,

BREEDER and dealer in Fancy FOWLS and EGGS Reference—Hon. Geo. B. Loring, Hon. William B. Sutton, Francis Dane, Esq. nov2-52t

Norfolk Agricultural Society.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the members of this Society will be held at the Everett House, Hyde Park, on Wednesday, March 26, at 10 o'clock, A. M. As their year ends at April 1st. Address *at once*, C. F. BLAKE, Fort Platte, Nebraska. mh22-3t*

Farm for Sale,

Situated about ¼ mile west from New Salem Village, Mass. Said Farm contains about 125 acres, suitably divided into mowing, pasturage and tillage, also has thereon a valuable timber lot; village complete of modern 2 story brick House, Barn 56x4 with cellar under whole, with other outbuildings, all in good repair, and running water at House and Barn. For further particulars, apply to the subscriber,

NELSON HASKINS,
New Salem, Mass.

mh22-4t*

For Sale

IN EAST MEDWAY,

The residence and Farm of the late Dr. Amory Gale, 2 story House with L, connecting with barn, with cellar, about 50 acres, nicely divided and well watered, cranberry meadow, pine etc.; very near depot, church and schools. Price Apply to Mas. M. GALE, on the premises, or to ALFRED JAMES, 102 State Street, Boston.

mh22-3t

New Advertisements.

GRASS SEED.

HERDS GRASS,
RED TOP,
KENTUCKY BLUE GRASS,
WHITE CLOVER,
RED CLOVER,
ALSIKE CLOVER,
ORCHARD GRASS,
HUNGARIAN,
MILLET,
ROUGH STALK MEADOW GRASS,
WOOD MEADOW GRASS,
PERENNIAL RYE GRASS,
YELLOW OAT GRASS,
TALL OAT GRASS,
CRESTED DOGSTAIL,
MEADOW FESCUE,
HARD FESCUE,
SHEEP'S FESCUE,

FOR SALE AT LOWEST MARKET PRICES.

Wholesale and Retail by

AMES PLOW COMPANY,
mh22-3t Over Quincy Market, Boston.

SPECTACLES.

FRENCH PERISCOPIC SPECTACLES,

SO HIGHLY RECOMMENDED by Physicians and Scientific men, are for sale by

A. PORTER,
PRACTICAL OPTICIAN,
No. 173 Washington Street, Boston.

Also, a large assortment of Gold, Steel, Rubber and Shell Eye-Glasses.

Spectacles and Eye-Glasses Repaired.

N. B.—Particular attention paid to Repairing Chronometers and Fine Watches. mh22-13t

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SUPERPHOSPHATE

—OF—

BONE LIME.

12 per cent. Soluble Phos. Acid.
4 per cent. Insoluble " "
3 per cent. Ammonia,

and raised by Prof. Collier of Vermont, and State Assayer Dr. Jackson and Sharples, at $66.00 per ton. Manufactured on the best known scientific principles, and from material only which will give it value, viz.: High grade Gelatine, Bone Coal and Sulphuric Acid, and from those only. Packed in Bags and Barrels.

Price $55.00 per Ton.

Tobacco Fertilizer.... $70.00 per Ton.
Brighton Bone Phosphate, $30.00 "

☞ Send for Circular.

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FISH GUANO,

AND LOBSTER CHUM,

FOR SALE BY

BOWKER & SPARROW.

29 BROAD STREET, BOSTON.

Successors to GEO. M. WORDEN, of East Gloucester, Mass.

Also, Manufacturers of CONCENTRATED FERTILIZERS for Grains, Grasses, Roots, Tobacco, Cotton, &c., and dealers in Kainit and Stassfurt Potash Salts, Crude Nitrate of Soda, Ungrounds and Ground Bone, Plaster, Refuse Salt, Peruvian Guano, Ground Bone, Sulphate of Ammonia, and various other articles used as Fertilizers.

From W. S. Clark, President of the Massachusetts Agricultural College.

AMHERST, Jan. 24, 1873.

To whom it may concern:—It affords me pleasure to state that Messrs. BOWKER & SPARROW, of 29 Broad St., Boston, are graduates of the Massachusetts Agricultural College, and are gentlemen of intelligence and integrity. They are engaged in the manufacture and sale of Commercial Fertilizers, and I most heartily commend them to the favorable consideration of those with whom they may seek business relations. mh15-9t

"Cheerful Voices" for Schools. There is no mistake about "Gems of Strauss" All Buy It.

the remark- CLARKE'S able character of this MODEL INSTRUCTION BOOK. From the first it has taken NEW the land, selling largely, and eliciting high commendation from those well qualified METHOD find to judge. Musical Writers for the papers say: —"Likely to become as popular FOR as Richardson's," "The very book"—"Among notices, every article has justly placed it far REED above any similar book."—"Attracts and allures the pupil."—"Overflowing with pure ORGANS. melodies."

Price $2.50. For sale everywhere.

"Sparkling Rubies" for Sab. Sch'ls. O. Ditson & Co. Boston. C H. Ditson & Co 711 Bd'way, N.Y. "Musical Treasure" all Try It!

mh15-tc

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Desires to call the attention of the afflicted to his new remedy for

Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis, Inflammation of the Throat and Lungs,

and all tendencies to Consumption.

The PRAIRIE WEED IS A LUNG TONIC, giving strength to the stomach and all the internal organs. Price $1,00. Sold by Druggists. jan18-52t

1873. Strawberry Plants. 1873.

Downer's Prolific Still Continues the Best.

PLANTS for sale in any quantity, from one hundred to one hundred thousand.

One hundred	$1 00
One thousand	$5 00
Three thousand	$12 00
Ten thousand	$35 00
Forty thousand	$100 00

If ordered before April 1st; after that time no discount will be made from my regular price list

D. C. TALBOT, Norwood, Mass.,
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White Leghorns!!

HAVING made the above my specialty, I offer fresh laid

EGGS FOR HATCHING

from my two breeding pens which, among others, contained the two *Exhibition Trios*, which took at Boston and Worcester

January and March, 1873, Four Premiums.

Price $3 per dozen for above and any of the following: DARK AND LIGHT BRAHMAS, PARTRIDGE COCHINS, BLACK SPANISH, BLACK HAMBURGS, AND BLACK RED GAME BANTAMS.

Address

LEONARD F. CUTTER,
No. 210 Commercial St., Boston.

☞ Yards at West Somerville.

mh15-20t

J. M. Currier

OFFERS for sale a few very fine PARTRIDGE COCHINS in pairs or trios; one trio DARK BRAHMAS bred from premium stock. Eggs for sale from the following varieties:

PARTRIDGE COCHINS	$4 00
BUFF COCHINS	3 00
DARK BRAHMAS	3 00
LIGHT BRAHMAS	3 00
CREVE-COEURS	2 00
HOUDANS	2 00
BROWN LEGHORNS	2 00
SEBRIGHT BANTAMS	2 00

Eggs sent from any yard are guaranteed fresh and true to none; carefully handled and well packed.

J. M. CURRIER,
West Amesbury, Mass

mh1-13t

For Sale.

GROUND BEEF and PORK SCRAPS, GROUND OYSTER SHELLS, GROUND BONE, and all other varieties of FEED FOR FOWLS.

FOWLS and EGGS from all the leading varieties. Send for circular.

JACOB GRAVES & CO.,
26 North Market Street, Boston.

mh15-tf

Choice Fowls and Eggs.

PARTRIDGE COCHINS, DARK BRAHMA, PLYMOUTH ROCK, and 27 other varieties of Fowls and Eggs, for sale by

288 Essex St., Salem, Mass.

Enclose stamp and send for Circular. jan26-4t

Wanted.

A MARRIED man to work on my farm. One who is a first class milker and who understands the nursing of early vegetables. Apply in person at my Farm.

W. S. LINCOLN.

Worcester, Feb. 18, 1873. feb25-4t

$30 PER WEEK and expenses paid. We want a reliable agent in every County in the U. S. Address Hudson River Wire Co. 130 Maiden Lane, N. Y., or Chicago, Ill

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feb1-18t

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POTATO PLANTER.

Does the work of twenty men.

Makes the furrow, cuts, drops and covers the Potatoes all at one operation.

No other machine for Farm use saves so much labor.

FOR SALE BY

AMES PLOW COMPANY,
QUINCY HALL, BOSTON.

☞ Send for circular mh15-tf

HARRINGTON'S PATENT.

The only combined Seed Sower and Cultivator. Made only by Ames Plow Co. Quincy Hall, Boston.

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feb22-tf

Reliable Seed Peas.

EARLY, MEDIUM AND LATE—All Choice Varieties of Each Class, True to Name.

For Sale at Lowest Market Rates.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL BY

AMES PLOW COMPANY,
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I was the first to introduce to the public the Hubbard Squash, American Turban Squash, Marblehead Mammoth Cabbage, Mexican Sweet Corn, Phinney's Watermelon, and many other

New and Valuable Vegetables.

This season I have a new and exceedingly valuable Squash, new varieties of corn, three fine melons, and other choice new vegetables for my customers.

My business is to supply, what every good farmer is anxious to get, the *very best* of vegetable seed. I grow a hundred and fifty kinds on my four seed farms, which are under my own eye, *making new vegetables a specialty*, besides importing their choicest varieties from European growers. As fine collection of flower seeds, as can be imported, will also be found in my Catalogue, which will be sent *free* to all applicants.

As stated in my Catalogue, all my seed is sold under three warrants. 1st; *That all money sent shall reach me.* 2d; *That all ordered plants shall be packed.* 3d; *That my seeds shall be fresh and true to name.*

JAMES J. H. GREGORY,
Marblehead, Mass.

jan25-12t

FERTILIZER.

NITRATE OF SODA and REFUSE OF SALTPETRE, in Barrels and Bags, ready for use, or in Compounding.

The best and cheapest Fertilizer for furnishing Ammonia, costing from $6 to $10 an acre.

This has been used in this vicinity for many years with great success.

Testimonials furnished.

Also, constantly received for Fish Pomace, in barrels, at $30 and $25 per ton. HENSHAW, BURT & TARR,
Proprietors of Boston Saltpetre Refinery, and dealers in PAINTS, OILS AND DRUGS.

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CORN SHELLER!

AN INVENTION NEEDED IN ALMOST EVERY FAMILY: a good Hand Sheller.

It removes the corn, clean from the cob Does not break the kernel. It adapts itself to large or small ears. It does not scatter the corn while shelling. Every machine warranted. Price $2, $2 50 and $3. Address T. Q. DEXTER, Boston, Mass. Agents wanted. feb15-3t

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AUCTIONEER,

FOR THE SALE OF

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In City or Country.

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(Room 2.)

RESIDENCE, Waltham.

mar15-52t

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Above Boylston St., (opposite Lagrange St.

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FURNITURE,

OF EVERY DESCRIPTION,

from latest designs, and made in the most thorough manner.

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DRAPERIES,
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MATTRESSES and PILLOWS.

All at Lowest Prices.

W. E. SNOW. L. M. ROLLINS.

mh1-13t

STOVES.

Chas. B. Wilder & Co.

Nos. 83 & 85 North St.,

BOSTON, MASS.,

Keep constantly on hand a large assortment of

COOK STOVES AND RANGES,

INCLUDING THE CELEBRATED

RICHMOND RANGE,

REED'S RANGES, EAGLE COOK STOVES

and a variety of other patterns.

—ALSO—

ALL SIZES FARMERS' BOILERS,

FOR WOOD AND COAL.

CORTICELLI

SPOOL SILK.

BEST IN THE WORLD.

Size, Length and Quality Warranted.

Secure this and you will use no other.

Sold by the leading Jobbers and retailers. feb8-13t

HEADQUARTERS

—FOR—

DISSTON'S SAWS

Now Permanently Located at

33 Doane Street, near Broad Street, Boston.

I am now receiving from the Factory a full line of these celebrated Saws, which I offer the trade at "Factory rates."

Also, a full line of American Co.'s Screws, Lamson & Goodnow Mfg. Co.'s Table Cutlery and Builders' Hardware.

H. O. STRATTON,

jan18-13t (of the late firm of Stratton, Covey & Co.)

Are You Going to Paint?

IF SO, USE THE

AVERILL

CHEMICAL PAINT.

This Paint costs less than white lead, and will wear twice as long It is of the purest white and all the fashionable shades mixed ready for use, and sold by the gallon only. Dries with a rich, glossy surface, and retains it.—Warranted not to crack, peel, or chalk off by friction.—Does not fade, spot, streak, nor mildew.

Send for Sample Card and recommendations.

LYMAN HATFIELD, Agent,

131 Portland St., Boston, Mass.

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RUBBER CEMENT,

FOR MENDING RUBBERS,

—AND—

Applying Rubber Soles to Leather Boots.

THIS Cement is pronounced by good judges to be the best ever invented. Wholesale price $2,00 per doz. Retails at 25 cts. FRANKLIN MAYNARD,
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A Paying Business

IS OFFERED to every energetic man or woman who wants to make from $40 to $75 a week. We want such agents, local and travelling, in every city and town in New England. For particulars, call on or address, W. F. Stetson & Co., Boston, Mass., office, over Quincy Market. mh15 12t

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FROM twelve leading varieties. Enclose stamp for Circulars. N. S. PERKINS, Jr.,
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STILL GREATER BARGAINS!

Unparalleled Success!

Our Final Grand Clearance Sale

FOR THIS SEASON.

CUSHMAN & BROOKS,

37 & 39 Temple Place.

RICH AND ELEGANT GOODS!

Truth Stranger than Fiction!

Over 20,000 yards HAMBURG EDGINGS.
" " " INSERTINGS.
" " " FLOUNCINGS

REAL LACES.

Over 5'00 dozen Linen Cambric HDKFS.
" 3000 " HOSIERY and GLOVES.
" 1000 " Embroidered Lace Trimmed APRONS
" 1000 " Embroidered SILK APRONS.

These Aprons are entirely new to Boston, and are being sold at ONE HALF cost of production.

20,000 yards finest French BANDS—styles not found elsewhere—for Clemlese Night Dresses, Drawers and Shirts.

No such assortment o finest quality Night Dresses, Chemise, Train and Demi-Train, and Walking Skirts as may be seen at our

Temple Place Establishment,

our own manufacture.

☞ We invite particular attention to GENTLEMEN'S FINE SHIRTS at $2.50 each and upward.

50 pieces Table Damask; all linen, at 37½c. per yard; 50 pcs. Table Damask at 50c per yd; 50 pcs. Linen Table Damask 75c. per yd.; 50 c es Linen Damask $1 per yd.; 50 pcs. Real Turkey Red 5-4 Table Damask $1 per yd. Also 50 pieces magnificent styles and quality Satin Damask, for Table Covers and Dining Clothe, $1 25 to $2 50 per yard. Together with Table Napkins, Colored Table Cloths, Piano Forte Covers, Doylies, Scotch Diapers, Rosela Crash Towels, $1 50, $2 and $2 per dozen and upward. Linen Shirt Fronts $2, $2, $4 50 and $6 per dozen. SPECIAL BARGAINS! 1000 dozen Gentlemen's wide hem 5-8 extra fine Linen Hdkfs., $3 per box, one dozen—$1 50 per half doz. SPECIAL BARGAINS! Ladies' fine Hemmed Stitched Linen Hdkfs., $1 50, $2 and $3 per doz. SPECIAL BARGAINS! Ladies' Real English Balbriggan Long Stockings, $3 per box, half dozen. SPECIAL BARGAINS: Ladies' Real Irish Balbriggan Long Hose $3 75 per box, half dozen.

12,000 Windsor Neckties, 50 cents each.

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FRUIT! FRUIT!

GRUB EXTERMINATOR

The only sure preventive from the ravages of the Grub and Canker Worm. Purest, safest and most reliable article offered to the public, having an experience of five years among the Farmers and Fruit Growers of New England, will not injure the tree, easy of application, applied on tarred paper or the bark.

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Next Door to Old South Church, Boston.

Sold in Packages from 5 to 400 pounds. Send for Circular. feb15-8t

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GAS BURNER!!

BRONNER'S

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German Globe.

Saving of gas 25 to 40 per cent. by using this Burner and Globe.

(FORMERLY SOLD BY D. B. STEDMAN & CO.)

GAS FIXTURES, DROP LIGHTS,

German Reading Globes.

BICKFORD'S

FAMILY KNITTING MACHINE,

will knit 20,000 stitches per minute. Cost from $30 to $60. FARRAND'S TUCKER AND HEMMER, $5.

EDWARD T. BACON,

General Agent for New England and Canada,

464 Washington St. Boston,

(Opposite Boylston Market.)

☞ Store Illuminated till 9 P. M. nov22-26t

Nov9-tf JOHN BROOKS, Princeton, Mass.

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NEW KINDS; BEST QUALITY; HOME GROWTH, LOW PRICES. Catalogues free.

W. C. STRONG,
Nonantum Hill Nursery,
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Gregory & Robinson,

PAPER

HANGINGS,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL,

225 Washington Street,

BOSTON.

mh1-52t

TO FARMERS!

WE WANT AN AGENT in every town to sell

PARTRIDGE FORKS.

Send for Circulars and Price List, mailed to you free upon application, and inform us in what paper you saw this notice.

SHUMWAY & COMPANY,

Manufacturers.

HAY, STRAW, MANURE AND SPADING FORKS, OYSTER FORKS, TANNERS FORKS, POTATO DIGGING FORKS, POTATO DIGGERS, MANURE DRAGS, STONE PICKERS, CLAM DIGGERS, FISH SPEARS, FISH FORKS, &c., at

PARTRIDGE FORK WORKS,

jan18-13t Leominster, Mass.

PURE FLOUR OF RAW BONE.

B. RANDALL,

SUCCESSOR TO

Boston Milling Company.

THE BEST FERTILIZER

IS THE CHEAPEST for the farmer to buy when sold at a reasonable price. I offer this season the above standard article at the low price of

$50 per Ton, net weight.

No charge for barrels, and delivered in Boston, at Depots, free.

No Acid, No Water, No Sand, No Plaster,

ONLY PURE FLOUR OF RAW BONE.

mh1-4t 43 Broad St., Boston, Mass.

C. C. CHAMBERLIN & CO.,

COMMISSION MERCHANTS,

And Dealers in

BUTTER, CHEESE, EGGS &C.,

Nos. 70 & 81 Faneuil Hall Market,

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FRANK A. SULLIVAN. } BOSTON.

Butter and Cheese Packed for Shipping. jan18-52t

Thomas W. Emerson & Co.,

Successors to BLANCHARD & EMERSON, and the late Hezekiah Blanchard,

COMMISSION MERCHANTS

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Field Seeds, Grain and Produce,

No. 124 and 126 So. Market St. Extension,

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Jacob R. Shipherd & Co.,

BANKERS, AND DEALERS IN STANDARD SECURITIES, 49 Devonshire Street, Boston. Orders for the purchase and sale of any kind of STOCKS, BONDS, etc., PROMPTLY EXECUTED. The fullest information relative to MISCELLANEOUS INVESTMENT SECURITIES, furnished upon application. Special attention given to orders or inquiries from all parts of New England. Correspondents: JACOB R. SHIPHERD & CO., New York, 54 Pine Street. Chicago, 16 204 Signet Frankfort-on-the-Main, Bierbergasse. feb22-13t

The Place to Purchase

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS,

Of nearly all varieties: as

Cornets, Altos, Bar tones, Basses Contrabasses. Orchestra, Cornets (of Brass or German Silver; Piston or Rotary Valve;

Drums, Cymbals, Flutes, Piccolos, Fifes, Fingerists, Clarionets, French and German Accordeons, Violins, and Guitars, Violoncellos, Double Basses, Concertinas, Fleutinas, Harmonicas, Musical Monitors, Boxes, Violin and Guitar Strings, and all Musical Merchandize, in the well known form of

J. C. HAINES & CO.,

33 Court Street, Boston.

(Opposite Court House.)

ap27-52t

Shingles and Clapboards!

NOW is the time to repair your Buildings. Great bargains in all kinds of Lumber at

CLARK & LEATHERBEE'S,

Wharves, Albany St., opp. Troy, Albany St., opp. Dedham, Boston.

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AGENTS WANTED. We want one good Agent in every township to sell our *new and quarterly popular Books and Engravings*. The very largest commission paid. Those now at work report great sales. Circulars and all information *free*. Write to WORTHINGTON DUSTIN & CO. Hartford Conn. sep26-26t

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RURAL ADVERTISER

A BOOK FOR FARM BUYERS,

Will be mailed to any address, FREE. It contains reliable descriptions of hundreds of Farms of every class and variety, which are for sale by

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SAMUEL DAVIS, 3d.,

REAL ESTATE AGENT,

Special attention paid to purchasing or selling

SMALL OR LARGE TRACTS OF LAND,

Either in or out of the City.

No. 1 PEMBERTON SQUARE, Room 1.

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Situated in Sterling, 1 mile from Centre depot, new House, slated roof, built by the day. Barn 105x42 feet, with cellar. Cider Mill, Hennery, and Farm House for help; 251 acres of good land, considered one of the best Farms in Worcester County. For terms, etc., apply to

JAMES M. RILEY,

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For Sale.

The quiet, pleasant Homestead of Josiah Woodward, late of Marlboro', N. H., deceased, consisting of 1½ story House, with L, Woodhouse and Barn attached, all in good repair, and 12 acres of Mowing, Tillage and Pasture land, situate ½ mile from, and overlooking the pleasant village of Marlboro', N. H., yielding from 15 to 20 tons of good Hay in a year, near to 3 Churches 2 Stores, the Frost Free Library, High and Common Schools, Mechanic's Shops, Manufactories where industry is well rewarded. There are some 30 Apple Trees on the premises, producing from 40 to 50 bushels of a variety of grafted fruit in a season, good running water to the House and Barn. A rare chance to buy a pleasant Home on reasonable and easy terms, and immediate possession given if desired. Reference, JAIRUS COLLINS, DARIUS BRICHARD, or AMOS A. MASON, Marlboro', N. H. OLIVE WOODWARD, Executor. Marlboro', N. H., March 6, 1873. mh8-4t

Farm Wanted.

The subscriber desires to purchase a nice Farm of from 50 to 100 acres located within a reasonable distance of railroad station and not more than 25 miles from Boston. The buildings must be ample for the place, in good repair or capable of being made so at small expense. For a really desirable place, I am ready to pay a good price, all cash. Any one owning a Farm likely to suit me, will please address as below, giving full particulars of location, style of buildings, price, &c. &c. No BROKERS NEED APPLY.

J. V. DODGE,
Box 67, Boston.

Farm for Sale in Worcester Co.

A very valuable and productive Farm in the town of Leominster, on the Boston, Clinton and Fitchburg Railroad, two miles from Centre Village, and seven miles from the city of Fitchburg, containing ninety-five acres of excellent land under a high state of cultivation, suitably divided into mowing, tillage, orcharding, pasture and woodland, with a never failing brook running through the pasture. The buildings consist of a modern two story House facing to the south, of nine well finished rooms with pantry and ample closet room, is painted and blinded and is thorough built. The Barn is 60x26 with cellar under whole, and attached to main house by Carriage, Tool House and Granary, all in excellent repair. There is a fine pear and peach orchard on the place in bearing condition, and some of best varieties; also grapes, currants and the small fruits. Said Farm will keep ten cows, yoke of oxen, and one horse. Lease to be given with a machine. Will be sold at the door. Will sell stock and tools with place if desired. For further particulars inquire of J. FRANKLIN FULLER, No. 29 Court Street, Boston, Mass., or on the premises of WILLIAM H. FULLER.

mh1-4t

Farm to Let.

To be let for two or three years, a Farm containing about fifty acres of land, situated in East Lexington nine miles from Boston. For particulars inquire of the subscriber on the premises.

J. GAMMELL.

East Lexington, Jan. 25, 1873. feb1-4t

Farm for Sale.

One of the best Farms in Worcester County, situated in Westboro, convenient to the Railroads, Schools, Churches, Mills, &c.—Price low and terms of payment easy. Call on or address S. GROW, Westboro', Mass.

jan18-13t*

Farm for Sale or Exchange.

The subscriber has two valuable and improved Prairie Farms in Sauk County, Wisconsin, which will be sold or exchanged for Eastern Real Estate. Address J. R. McAFFEE,

jan11-4t No. 204 West Springfield Street, Boston.

For Sale.

Wachusett Mountain situated in Princeton, Mass., containing about 600 acres of it is covered with a good growth of Oak, Beach, Maple and Hemlock timber. 3 miles from Depot, Worcester Gardner & Barre Railroad. Good stone house on summit. Also Jones Hill situated in Princeton (a beautiful site for a country residence) containing 10 0 acres, 75 of which is the best pasture in Worcester county. 25 acres in one piece of prime upland mowing all of it is cut with a machine.

Nov9-tf JOHN BROOKS, Princeton, Mass.

MASSACHUSETTS

MUTUAL

INSURANCE CO.,

39 Court Street, Boston.

This Company, with a paid-up Cash Capital of

$200,000,

is prepared to insure against FIRE or LIGHTNING, in the City or Country, DWELLINGS and HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE.

ONE-FOURTH of the profits to be retained as a Reser

MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN & NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE--BOSTON, SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 1873.

The Poet's Corner.

AWAKENED.

My heart was like a hidden lyre
In silence that so long hath lain—
Not e'en the cold, neglected wire
Remembereth its own sweet strain:
Till thou, a breeze from summer shore,
Breathed tenderly across the string,
That, waking into life once more,
Began the broken song to sing.

My soul was like a diamond spark
Imprisoned in the rocky mine,
Unconscious, in that eyeless dark,
What hidden fires within it shine:
Till thou, a gleam of noonday light,
Upon the buried jewel came,
That, breaking from its long, dull night,
Leaped up, a many tinted flame.

My life was like a pallid flower
Within the shadow sprung, alone,
Forgotten of the sun and shower,
And withering ere it has blown:
Till thou, a drop of morning dew,
Stole softly downward through the gloom,
And straight the bud asunder flew
To fill the air with balm and bloom.

Then take, and fashion to thy will,
This heart and soul and life of mine!
Shall not thy own free gifts fulfill
Their utmost hope in seeking thine?
I claim no harvest from a field
My hands have tended not: the tone,
The fragrance, and the light revealed
By thee, belong to thee alone!

Ladies' Department.

LILIAN'S LIFE.

BY HARRIET PRESCOTT SPOFFORD.

We are all of us apt to think that short life and sudden death are among those terrible evils from which we must pray to be delivered. And how few of us there are who pause to consider the possibility of as much bliss and as much experience being crowded into the shorter span, in rich and solid veins, as could be beaten out in thin surfaces over the whole of three-score-and-ten!

For my part, when all the world were pitying and sorrowing over Lilian Holberton's early loss, it seemed to me a sort of sublime and satisfying thing. She was a being so perfect in her way—perfect as a rose or a spray of lily bells is perfect—that if she had lived to be eighty, the experience of years, with their strictest discipline, would hardly have given her an added perfection. And how much better is it, after all, to have dragged out a long existence of the common aches and ails, to lie in your bed at last fearing pain and dreading death, than to go down in the night with your lover's arms about you—to slip from one heaven into another?

She was the child of wealthy parents, born in a home that was only not a palace, with sisters and brothers about her to brighten the hours of every day. Objects of beauty constantly surrounded her; rich colors, soft draperies; paintings, every one of which was a glimpse into ideal regions; statues of lovely and heroic beings that taught her something of the society of demi-gods; and, without, the house was set in gardens, a bright mosaic of lawn and flower bed and fountain and wood and river. Her childhood was only a long rapture; she fell asleep at night full of the happy fatigue of pleasure; she sprang up in the morning as innocent and fresh and ready for life as the sunbeams and and birds and flowers and dew. She was full of natural gifts, moreover; her pencil was as skillful in her hands as her needle, and music came at her bidding like a handmaid. She learned, too, both the pleasure of sacrifice and the pleasure of her own will; and her warm and generous heart never suffered a pang from seeing sorrows that she could not relieve. As she grew older and blossomed into girlhood, beauty blossomed with her. Her shape was round and supple and slender, and her face was of the kind that used to be pictured in the old souvenirs and annuals, and that artists have ceased to believe in—a dazzling fase, with the velvet rose on its dimpled cheek, the ivory of its round high brow, with the red of its melting lip, the golden brown of its clustering curls. Yes, Lilian Holberton was as perfect among young girls as a half blown rose is among flowers—as good as she was beautiful, as happy as she was good. I shall never forget what a vision she was one night at a party in Washington, in which city she was sojourning with her father.

Mr. Holberton had come to Washington on business, bringing Miss Lilian with him for the journey and the change, and giving her in charge to his cousin, Mrs. Sterling, who lived in the city; and of course Mrs. Sterling being a lady of society, and finding such a treasure as a beauty in her possession, lost no time in mulcting Mr. Holberton to the extent of a ball dress—a ball dress that was simply bewitching—and taking Lilian in it to the only party she ever attended in her life, and whither she went with a delightful mingling of sensations, knowing that it was not intended she should come out for some years to come, and so, more than half conscious of her mother's disapproval, but nevertheless full of satisfaction at the pride in her father's eyes as he surveyed her—her father who had been talked over to this single escapade—and flushed with anticipation of the miraculous delights of the night.

It was said to be, I think, the finest party ever given in the capital. The rooms were no more spacious than those of Lilian's home--perhaps not so spacious; the pictures and statuary, choice as they were, did not strike her with any new emotion; but the white, steady blaze of the wax lights filled the place with such radiance that it seemed like going inside a star, and the color and fragrance of the flowers made it intoxicating to breathe the air; vines running along the cornices, and blossoming on every lintel, wreathing every statue, and dripping from every picture; one mantel a mere plot of thick purple violets, another a mat of single sweet brier roses; the sconces twined with great red and white lilies; a marble fountain jshooting up like lances of flame, but falling noiselessly into the bedded moss around it, and cooling the great ball room like a dew; rosy oleander and snowy orange trees lining the broad stairways, with night blooming cereus, like a lamp of light itself, and an aloe in flower; and wreaths and balls and baskets of azaleas and carnations and hyacinths stretching everywhere from lofty door to door; a murmur of sweet voices; the band playing the *Traumere* fit to break her heart. And people passing in such toilettes as she had only seen pictured on fans—this one a moving color with the shimmer of her silks, that one a moving light with the splendor of her jewels. When Lilian looked upon it all, and glancing into the supper room, saw flowers again softening the glitter of gold and silver and crystal there, and the fantastic erections of confection aht sweetmeats, the block of ice with its red hollow of claret punch, and tasted a simple sip of a maddening elixir of Champagne and green tea, it is no wonder that she half fancied it a place of enchantment, and carried herself with all the abandon that comported with the scene.

Of all the lovely maidens there she could not know she was the loveliest. Her dress, of that last pale shade of green that you sometimes see in a late autumn sky before sunset—that ineffable tint which nobody but a milliner was ever audacious enough to catch and label with the name of vert d'eau—was veiled with web over web of flowing silken net, till she might have seemed a water nymph with the white foam of her shallows about her; and round her neck Mrs. Sterling had hung a wonderful string of aqua marine beads cut in countless facets, which, circling the throat, had the swan's own curve in it, with their band of light, buried themselves in the laces of the stomacher, and fell in a chatelaine far down among the snowy skirts, and a cluster of the aqua marine hung in the bright hair and trembled above the white forehead like a star. It was a bewildering night to Lilian, with the dress, the scene, the homage to her beauty, the music, the devotion of one partner more marked than all the rest—a pale and handsome Southern youth—and the issuing, to thunder of rolling carriages, into the cold air and the yellow streak of dawn. And a couple of nights thereafter, still too excited for any sleep save in snatches, she was trundling, to the sound of horns and the clank of chains, down the historic street of Baltimore, was rolling across the immense stretch of the Gunpowder rivers, so weirdly desolate, with not a light or sail on all their dark and lonely expanse, rolling across the mile long Susquehanna Bridge, that shook to the great train's tread, and so northward to her home again.

And then came the single cloud in Lilian's sky—a cloud of no great duration, though black enough, she thought, while it lasted. Her mother, shocked at the escapade of the Washington party, and at its possible effects on Lilian's character, determined that the truant should be sent away to a finishing school, and one so far off that there could be no relenting. An English school, therefore, recommended by valued acquaintances across the water, was chosen; and Lilian, her appetite for excitement having been stimulated till the prospect of the ocean travel quite obliterated the prospect of the school, and conscious herself that her education was not yet all it should be, departed in high spirits for the foreign shores, and was established and left in the famous school by her parents with great satisfaction.

But Lilian Holberton was no tame English lassie to succumb to tyranny without resistance; she was a thorough American, and as often a rebel to unjust rules as anything else. In fact, she knew her rights, and knowing, dared maintain; and she had not been a month in the establishment before she found that the boarding school horrors that the English journals now and then reveal were daily occurrences there. She had thereupon announced her intention of leaving the place at once, and had been punished like a child, and held up to the reprobation of all her comrades for such unheard-of-unmaidenliness. She had been called an American in the same tone as she would have been called a savage, her beautiful shoulders had known the sting of the bunch of rods, she had been put into pinafores, she had been starved into submission, and her letters home had been opened and destroyed.

Of course, after divining that these letters never went beyond the school gates, it was out of the question for Lilian to think of remaining there, in prison and among enemies, for the sake of all the accomplishments in the world. Accomplishments could be gotten elsewhere, but health and nerves and spirits would be destroyed here; and she thought of her father's amasement if he could but know of her plight, and of her mother's tears and self reproach, and her younger sisters' horror, till she fairly cried herself out of pity for them! And one dark night, with a parcel of such articles as were indispensable, she eluded observation, climbed through a window, ran across the fields, and caught the night train at the adjoining station, where the grinning guard, who may have surmised from whence she came, and had perhaps had such passengers before, stowed her away in a coach by herself.

The next morning she stepped from the car, and found herself in a little sea faring town, of which she knew nothing except that ships sailed thence for the other side of the world. But how to buy a berth on any of them? She had no jewelry, for her father had always disapproved of its influence upon youth, and her purse had been taken away from her at the school; but she had managed to secrete her watch from the hawk's eyes about her, and that she sold now, within the hour, for just money enough to secure a passage in an outward bound brig. The brig was outward bound, and that was all she understood about it in her haste and panic; but anywhere away from those shores, away from the power of Miss Montgomery, from the humiliation of her rods, the hunger of her discipline; from the spiked pencil of the music master, that tore her fingers; from the maulstick of the painting teacher, that bruised her flesh; from the blackboards and braces, from the stocks and pinafores, the slights and insults and outrages—anywhere away from these daily tortures that had been the only trouble of her life, and had lasted just four months—anywhere away from these would be travelling Edenward. And so, indeed, it proved for Lilian.

When she learned at last that the brig's destination was Nassau and not New York, instead of being terrified, she congratulated herself that Nassau was so near home; she only feared that before all sail was set Miss Montgomery or her myrmidons might be upon her; and she despatched a letter by the pilot, which should reach the ocean mail, not closed for a couple of days yet, and should instruct her father either to send for her in Nassau or to place funds there by the means of which she might hasten to him and her mother.

And that done, and the pilot-boat watched as it went dancing over the waves till it was a speck, and then was nothing, she was safe, that she had escaped at last, that she was on her way home—on her way to that home peopled by such heavenly beings as she believed her family to be—that place haunted by sweet voices, gentle manners, beautiful shapes; and she could see one and all running down the white stairs of the pillared porch to meet her as she came up the blossoming paradise of gardens, and she was already embracing them and crying in their arms. And her heart opened to all the world—she could even forgive the Miss Montgomery; and, having made friends with the captain's wife, she was bubbling over with happiness and all the effervescence of her new experience.

After all, there is nothing so lovely as happiness. The happy smile of a plain face can soon eclipse the sour discontent of a beauty. And what, then, must be the power of beauty that does not feel a film between itself and the sun! Lilian, dancing here and there about the deck, hanging over the vessel's side in reverie, or brightening the little cabin below, had presently endeared herself to all about. "We shall have fine weather," said the sailors, "so long as she's aboard," and Mr. Taliaferro repeated it to her.—Horace Taliaferro, one of the three or four other passengers in the little craft, indeed an old acquaintance, as it seemed to her now, for he was no other than the devoted partner of her only ball, the pale and handsome Southern youth with whom she had danced so often on that bewildering night which she remembered like a splendid dream. She had hailed him here with rapture, and the grasp of both hands, never thinking of the difference between the shining ball dress and the straight school attire, never practicing art or wile, only glad to see him from the bottom of her overflowing heart, and not once conscious that her beauty was of the sort that nothing pales but time, and that a hood of hodden gray became her as a crown of jewels might.

"We shall have fine weather, the sailors say, so long as you are aboard, Miss Lilian," said he.

"Then I must forget," said she, "that Jonah is the only prophet who ever went to sea."

"Yet sailors have more prophecies than any other people."

"I hope they are false ones," she answered; "for, of all things, I want a storm. Perhaps I shall never be at sea again in a sailing vessel, and to think of missing a storm!"

Mr. Taliaferro looked at her a moment. "You are such a happy thing," he said, "that your happiness runs over and gives a rosy bloom to horror itself. You forget that storm in those latitudes where we are going means death and drowning and despair, and all the other double d's."

"Hush, hush!" she said. "I am getting as superstitious as a sailor. You must not mention those dreadful things, or they will think you are calling them, and will come. I don't mean, of course, any such vicious storm with murderous intent as all that; only a great blustering gale that we shall ride out, and then the wind will fall, and the sea go down into long swells, and the sun will come out, and we shall find ourselves swinging under the lee of a great shining cliff, with a palm-tree bending over the brink of it. Oh, just to think of the moment when we first see a palm-tree towering against the sky—it is enough to live for! And to have it without planning for it, too! How glad I am I ran away from school!"

"So am I," said Mr. Taliaferro.

And then the young girl was suddenly silent, and neither did he say any more; but they looked over together over the ship's side and watched the slow-sliding colors of the depths below, as they had been watching them any time these three weeks past, and as they were to watch them for these three weeks to come. And of course the rest followed quickly, as it was likely to follow where the only young people on the ship, hemmed in by sky and sea, were hourly in each other's companionship; as likely to follow, indeed, as two drops of water in a cup are likely to roll together and make one drop.

Perhaps the young man's heart had warmed to the young girl before; but this exuberant happiness of hers gave a great brilliancy that called the deepest passions into play, and her sunny sweetness and gayety were like chains to hold him bound. Presently, if she were absent, he missed her, and went to seek her; and then one does not need beauty or brilliancy when one has propinquity, for propinquity is a wonderful power among the great elemental forces. For her own side, excepting her father and now and then a guest, and the people of her brief Washington sojourn, Lilian had perhaps never spoken to a man before—certainly never to a young man. She was alone and among aliens, among dangers too, and in strange situations. When the wind piped at night in the rigging and made her sigh with an unknown sorrow, or when a heavy sea broke round the bows and made her shiver with an unnamed fear, this protecting manner of his gave her an assurance that no harm could touch her; and when the sun shone, and the fitful breeze just flapped the sail, and they drifted along like a weed on the tide, this interest of his gave delight to the delay. Half realising that lately she was an oppressed slave, and now was ruling like a queen, she experienced novel and exquisite sensations. When he sought her her heart sprang up and went out to meet him; and lately a hidden thrill had trembled through all her veins as she looked at him, and had made her turn her eyes away, for he had a dark and powerful beauty of his own, and his eyes were saying things to hers that there was no mistaking, and yet, perhaps, she hardly knew what it was they said; she dared not think herself so blessed as to have the right to believe them.

They were sitting together one night on deck. The old gentleman who always said he was going South for his lungs, as if they were something he had mislaid, had gone below for the same things now; his elderly sister had followed with his air cushions and wraps; the owner—young Taliaferro's father—and the supercargo had turned in long ago, and the captain's good wife played propriety with her mouth so audibly wide open that you knew her eyes were shut; there was only the watch on deck; there was only one solitary passenger sitting almost amidships in the shadow of the main stay-sail; there was only the man at the wheel any where near them, and who ever thought of the man at the wheel being anything more than a part of the fixtures of the binnacle! The deep purple of the heavens was all alive with starlight as with an infoming spirit, the golden shell of a new moon was just dropping in the west; and Taliaferro and Lilian leaned side by side and studied the phosphorescent water depths in the way that had become habitual to them. And they talked low voiced and in hesitating sentences, and then there were long, sweet silences, in which neither dared meet the other's eye, though conscious of the pulse in either's heart—and in one of them his arm had stolen round her trembling form, and their lips had met in the first long, deep kiss, and they were plighted lovers without a word. And under the shelter of the cloak that he threw around her they sat in one another's arm a long, delicious, whispering hour, while the moon went down, and the wind rose, and the little brig went bounding on.

If these two lovers had had eyes for any thing outside their own meridian, they might have seen the somewhat ominous sight of a dark finger lifted straight against the red horn of the moon one instant ere it sank from sight, like the threatening finger of some dark storm afrit. Perhaps it belonged to the hand of a passenger who could not sleep, and coming on deck, had wet his landsman's finger and held it up to see which way the wind was blowing, while he was yet half below. Perhaps it was the bare topmast of some passing ship far off in the horizon. No matter which; they never saw it; they saw only each other, were aware only of the present; did not so much as dream of the future; felt not one thrill of vaguest fear of any dole that could disturb their bliss. And as they sat there—their arms about each other, their foreheads cool in the gale that blew their hair together, their cheeks warm each against the other, their hearts beating together, wrapped all in peace and joy and passion, the deep, sweet peace, the pure and lofty passion—there came a seething rush and roar everywhere about us, there was a cry from the look-out, and as we lay this minute in the trough of the sea, a vast black mass was looming above us, was over us! And before a hand could touch the wheel again the wave had slipped from under, and the monster came crushing and rending on, and its huge iron beak had cut us down as an axe cuts a branch. And I had sprung and caught a hanging martingale chain, and clung and clambered, and the great Spanish steamer crashed on with me, and I saw the lovers, not once disturbed in their dreaming, still in each other's arms as death and drowning overwhelmed them, while the little brig went down like a lump of lead.

Written for the Massachusetts Ploughman.

DRIFTING.

Over the sleeping waters,
The shadows softly glide—
Slowly the jeweled portals,
Of the evening open wide.

Out in the feathery palm groves,
The birds are silent now,
While the moon is weaving a silvery veil,
Around the mountain's brow.

As I wander through the vineyards,
Where the balmy breezes play,
I am thinking of that cear old home,
O'er oceans far away.

Long years have hurried onward,
Since I left my native hills,
With their peaceful, sunny meadows,
And rippling mountain rills.

That home is now forsaken,
Where the trailing willow falls,
And the summer sunbeams wander,
Along the mouldering walls.

The well sweep so grey and mossy,
Swings slowly to and fro,
As through the whispering poplars,
The south winds come and go.

Where once the waving corn fields
Spread o'er the fertile vale,
The wild vine twines its garlands,
And the thistle blossoms sail.

One starry summer evening,
I remember, O how well,
The gentle voice of sad cooing,
In the lonely wooded dell.

We lingered at the gateway,
To breathe our last good bye,
While the tears were softly falling,
From her tender, dark blue eye.

I hastened down the pathway,
The future fair and bright,
But alas! hope's treacherous beacon
Soon sunk in darkest night.

A tress of shining auburn,
With a bow of faded blue,
Is all that death has left me,
Of that lost one dear and true.

Yet, though the waves of sorrow,
Sweep o'er the shores of time,
The love so early blighted,
Shall bloom in a brighter clime.

Yes, home of life's rosy morning,
I ne'er shall see you more,
My barque is slowly drifting,
Towards an unseen shore.

E.

Winchester, Mass., 1873.

KEEP OUT OF DEBT.

Half the perplexity, annoyance and trouble that men have in this world is in consequence of getting into debt. It seems to be natural for some people to buy, and incur obligations without measure so long as they can avoid paying ready cash. Give one of this sort a chance to buy on credit, and the questions of payments are matters that he cares but little about. But what a crop of trouble springs up from the seed of debt. How many gray hairs it brings, and how often it shortens life; sometimes leading men to commit suicide or murder. And yet how easy it is to keep clear of this terrible monster. Every young man should form a fixed and unalterable determination, before commencing his active business career, not to incur one penny of indebtedness, under any circumstances. Never buy anything unless you have the money to pay for it at once. Pay no attention to the "splendid opportunities," "rare chances," "bargains," and the like. Such are only traps set to catch victims. If you see anything that you would like to accept, look first at your money pile, and make the answer depend upon that. Always pay as you go. If you are short of money gauge your demands accordingly.

SILENT INFLUENCE.

It is the bubbling spring which flows gently, the little rivulet which runs along, day and night, by the farm house, that is useful rather than the swollen flood or warring cataract.—Niagara excites our wonder, and we stand amazed at the power and greatness of God there as he "poured it from the hollow of his hand." But one Niagara is enough for the continent or the world, while the same world requires thousands and tens of thousands of silver fountains and gently flowing rivulets, that water every farm and meadow, and every garden, and that shall flow on every day, and every night, with their gentle, quiet beauty. So with the acts of our lives. It is not by great deeds, like those of the martyrs, that good is to be done; it is by the daily and quiet virtues of life—the Christian temper, the meek forbearance, the spirit of forgiveness, in the husband, the wife, the father, the mother, the brother, the sister, the friend, the neighbor, that good is to be done.

☞ Mrs. Lander, the distinguished American actress, is in Rome. She did not care to cross the Atlantic during the fearful storms of the winter. Writing from Rome, she says:—"Such filth, such poverty, such damp, airless, sunless caves or holes, in which the people seem to wallow like pigs flapped the sail, and they drifted along like a weed on the tide, this interest of his gave delight to the delay. Half realising that lately she was an oppressed slave, and now was ruling like a queen, she experienced novel and exquisite sensations. When he sought her her heart sprang up and went out to meet him; and lately a hidden thrill had trembled through all her veins as she looked at him, and had made her turn her eyes away, for he had a dark and powerful beauty of his own, and his eyes were saying things to hers that there was no mistaking, and yet, perhaps, she hardly knew what it was they said; she dared not think herself

☞ Such is the blessing of a benevolent heart, that, let the world frown as it will, it cannot possibly bereave it of all happiness, since it can rejoice in the prosperity of others.

☞ The loss of a friend is like that of a limb; time may heal the anguish of the wound, but the loss cannot be repaired.

The Home Circle.

SOCIAL GAMES.

Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:

I read an editorial in the *Ploughman*, several weeks since, upon social games, and was much interested in it; but it did not occur to me that we could organize a game of the character you describe, in our domestic circle, until I read the letter of Henrietta, from Rutland, Vt., published in the *Ploughman* of Feb. 8th. I read that letter several times, and twice I read it aloud to members of the family, but we all agreed that although the "Writing Game," which I find elsewhere called "Gumbo," was a complete success in the family of Aunt Jerusha, it would be a failure in our family, for it seemed to us that the family represented in Henrietta's letter, must be in point of intelligence far above the average families in our locality. But some two weeks since, we brought out Henrietta's letter and read it again, and finally concluded that we would try the game of "Gumbo" one evening and see if any success would attend our efforts; for, as father often tells us, we can never know what we can do until we try. The evening set apart for the trial came, and sitting around a good old fashioned wood fire in the open fire place, we distributed the pencils and the papers. Mother declined to take part; she said it was for the younger members, and that her days of writing composition passed before she was married, and as for writing poetry, she never was in love enough for that, any way. Father declined for similar reasons, and my two younger brothers also declined to write, because they were not sufficiently learned to do anything of the kind. This reduced the number of writers to Sister Harriet, Cousin Mattie, Brother Tim and myself, and we made up hill work of it I assure you. When Cousin Mattie read the results of our writing they seemed tame compared to Henrietta's account of Aunt Jerusha's success, and we all voted that "Gumbo" was a good game for the Mutual Admiration Society which supports the *Atlantic Monthly* down at the Hub, but that it was too deep for Skowhegan.

Night before last Cousin Mattie's brother came over to see his sister, I suppose, (he didn't say so however) and we were wondering how we should pass the evening, and mother proposed to try "Gumbo" again; and she and father and all hands agreed to take part; and this time the play was really a success. At any rate, we had a vast amount of fun out of it, and all of us when bed time came around, were loth to leave off, not feeling the need of any refreshing sleep. At the close of the evening, the family elected me editor, to select a few of our best productions and write a letter for the *Ploughman*. I herewith copy them. There were many others nearly, if not fully as good as these I send you, and father and mother were not excelled by any of the more youthful members of the family in the questions and answers furnished.

Q.—Who made the first match? *Timothy.*

Ans.—Timothy Dodd the first match made,
A match it was of very first grade;
The man was a youngster, just out of his teens,
The woman a queen of all the queens.
She was fourteen and seven when courting began,
And waited for boyhood to grow up to man;
She tended the boy in her motherly arms,
And taught by degrees her womanly charms.
So as nineteen was reached in the age of his youth,
He looked to his nurse for virtue and truth,
And married the woman just six score and ten,
Who made this good boy the best of all men.

Q.—What shall we live for? *Delight.*

Ans.—Live for the good we can do to the race;
Live to adorn the home with our grace;
Live to help forward the cause of the right,
Live to the world to be a *delight*;
Live to enjoy the bright face that we love,
Live to ensample the mansions above.
Live to do right whether others complains,
Live to cheer onward whoever restrains;
Live to do battle to error and wrong—
To encourage the weak and thus make them strong.
The poor and the helpless to help in distress,
Though few bear their burthens, we'll aid them no less.
Thus, thus shall our life be a glorious way,
And join the years here with eternity's day.

Q.—What would life be worth without love? *Fascination.*

Ans.—With no one to love, I should not care to live;
If no one loved me, I should constantly grieve;
For of all the blessings which God does send,
The one I prize most, is surely a friend.
A friend to love and cheer on life's way;
A friend to love more as day passes day;
A friend who in trouble will truly befriend;
A friend that I shall and should love to the end.
Is there not *fascination* in thinking of this?
Would not such a friend make living a bliss?
And when from this life we may pass away,
And with friends on earth no longer can stay,
We shall hope their sweet faces to meet above
Where eternity's bliss is eternity's love.

Q.—"Is candy always sweet?" *Sugar.*

Ans.—"Candy is generally sweet I think,
Provided of sugar it has not shrunk;
And should confectioners substitute anything else,
They would surely lose my trade."

Q.—"Does success always attend the brave?" *Lobster.*

Ans.—"Tis not the lot of all to meet success,
However persevering our efforts or brave our advances.
But most certainly I would wish at least to deserve success even if it be only in catching a lobster."

Q.—"Will all men be happy in the other world?" *Haymakers.*

Ans.—"Theology treats of things so queer,
My answer to you I very much fear,
Will seem a doctrine not much known
Among the sons of Pilgrims grown,
But I shall answer, as I believe—
Whether you're glad or whether you're grieved,
I do not for a moment have a doubt—
That in heaven's realm none will be left out—
And whether they're blacksmiths or haymakers there;
Each one shall roll off his load of care;
And ejoice in life forevermore,
Which for all men I think's in store."

Q. "Who is the oldest bachelor in town?" *St. Paul.*

Ans.—"If we measure our lives not by years but by deeds,
Or judge of one's worth, by the things that he reads,
Or take for our motto, the words of St. Paul,
He who liveth alone is wiser than all,
We may find in our midst one whose years tho' not many,
Would prove through his walk an example for any."

MARIA.

Skowhegan, March 8, 1873.

A LOVER'S ANSWER.

An early rose, a late rose—
What does it matter, sweet,
Since all the lovely petals
Are scattered at your feet?
An early rose is of the dawn, dewy, fleeting, bright;
A late rose is of the noon, a lingering delight.

First love, last love—
What does it matter, dear,
Since for your maiden grace it pleads
In tender faith and fear?
First love is of the dawn, dreamy, fleeting bright;
Last love is of the noon, life's lingering delight.

QUIPS, QUIRKS AND QUODLIBETS.

Some bottle-nosed whales have been seen off Ireland. It is but fair to infer, then, that they are pointing their noses toward Cork.

Men are said to be like bugles, the more brass they contain, the more noise they make and the farther you can hear them.

When has a man a ghost of a chance of appeasing his appetite? When he's a-goblin' up anything.

A little girl at Dubuque amended the Lord's Prayer by asking for "her daily gingerbread."

An incidental inquiry:—Would artificial teeth enable a person to sing false sett-o?

Why are clergymen like brakeman? Because they do a good deal of coupling.

Duelists must have their seconds, and widows are entitled to their thirds.

It is announced that California is going into the agriculchaw of tobacco.

Civilized cannibalism—Eating your bread with a little Indian in it.

How does the hair dresser end his days? He curls up and dies.

Ladies look most "killing" when they are ready for sleighing.

A girl has a ringing laugh when she is a belle.

The best color for faces—Water color.

Weather reports—Cold snaps.

A cold spell—C-o-l-d.

☞ A writer on physiognony sagely says: "A human face without a nose doesn't amount to much." Whereupon another writer observes that "a human nose without a face doesn't amount to much either."

☞ Josh Billings says he never knew a dog of enny breed whatsumever to take hydrobody after he had been thoroughly vaccinated with buckshot.

The Fashions.

SPRING SUITS, HIGH COIFFURES AND OTHER NOTIONS.

With spring, the mantulet is reappearing. It is square in front, and not falling lower than the third of the space from waist to the edge of the dress. Behind, it is rounded like a pelerine, and ornamented with a pointed hood. It looks nicer, and is more fashionable, when made of the same material as the dress, and trimmed in strict accordance.

Costume of cashmere, or any light woolen material that may be preferred, of two shades of the same color, is very pretty for spring. The first skirt, which just reaches the ground, is trimmed with a gathered flounce, headed with a flat plesting of the darker shade. Behind, the skirt is trimmed with two other gathered flounces, decreasing in width, placed at intervals, and both headed with a similar plesting of the darker material. The tunic forms a tablier in front, and reaches up to the waist behind. It is trimmed to correspond. A mantelet, such as we described above, completes this toilet.

This is the season for indoor jackets. This variable weather, much warmer in the afternoon than in the morning or at night, renders them extremely convenient. Black velvet, or bright colored cashmere, are the materials generally chosen for stylish jackets. Gold embroidery is much the fashion, but ladies who think it too showy can very well replace it by black soutache or embroidery au passe in black floss silk. They are made with wide sleeves, and are open at the back and sides, as they were last year.

Low, drooping chignons are completely out of fashion. The fashions at the court of Berlin, have to have been the model from which our coiffures are now arranged. The whole mass of hair is disposed on the top of the head in an intricate assemblage of curls and loops; but is by no means so high as the real Louis XV. coiffure. If ladies would for once, not exaggerate this fashion, it would be very becoming to many of them. There is a variety of new combs, many of them very high. Those made of tortoise shell are more handsome than those of jewelry. There are ladies who make their towering coiffure a stand for the exhibition of their jewelry. They put in their hair the bracelets, brooches, agraffes, lockets, which they cannot dispose of on their arms and necks. This is an aberration of taste. A single rose or camelia in a moderate and natural looking coiffure looks a thousand times more ladylike and truly elegant.

Sashes are rolled around or just below the waist, and are knotted in Eastern fashion. This arrangement, to have the proper effect, requires a slight figure. No panier should be worn with the Oriental sash.

Veils for the street are in great variety Very pretty ones are made of velvet or chenille or silk fringe. Those of plain net, edged with the silk Spanish lace, are favorites with many. The shapes are as varied as the materials. The Chantilly veils usually come scarf shaped, or with a plain point The scarf shaped veil can be used for draping the shoulders as well as for covering the face.

Palmetto hats have become great favorites for rural wear. The straw is imported from Florida, and is prepared and made into hats in New York; hence the palmettos offered to the *beau monde* this season are far superior and more appropriate for a dress hat than any ever before brought to market.

Florida palmetto chapeaux have been introduced in Paris. The rustic hats were well received by the *modistes* who garnished them in the nasty, effective manner. One of the *modes* milliners (Magnier) trimmed a palmetto hat and sent it to the great actress, Sophie Croizette, the modern Rachel of the French stage. This great favorite of the drama is making quite a sensation in the gay city. While playing the leading role in the popular play of "*L'ami de la Maison*," Mademoiselle Croizette wore in one of the acts a Florida palmetto hat, and straightway the pretty American chapeau became a favorite with the elegant Parisian ladies. Madame Virot also trimmed a palmetto hat, and sent it to the ex-Empress Eugenia, who wore the chapeau.

Flowers, of all descriptions, are worn; also grasses and foliage.

The "mousseline" ribbon is quite a novelty, and will take the place of the gros grain. This new style of ribbon is double faced, has a pretty satin edge, and the quality is very superior; it is also durable, and will easily form into a graceful bow; the price quite low. The gros grains, with a white side, will doubtless be very well received.

Fashion favors the natty head dress, for young married ladies to wear at breakfast, and for more advanced *elegantes* to wear all the time. The Parisan headdresses are composed of lace and ribbon, also flowers. The styles are various, but none are large; on the contrary, they are just the nicest little arrangements to set off good looks as ever *modiste* contrived for the benefit of womankind.

For evening dresses there are some new and beautiful designs. White tulle and tarletons, which have hitherto formed the overdress, are now used for the under trained skirt, with over dresses of bright colored silks or satins. These are especially beautiful for young ladies toilettes.

VIENNA.

The following extracts from correspondence to London newspapers will be read with avidity by intending visitors to this year's Vienna Exposition:

"Vienna is much warmer in summer than in London, but there are plenty of cool resorts close at hand. The Goldene Lamm Hotel, close to the Prater, is in an excellent situation, and the best plan would be to go there, and from thence search for "pensions" or lodgings. The charges at Vienna will be very high this year in consequence of the approaching exhibition, but it is a charming and agreeable residence."

"I spent last October in Vienna, and have no hesitation in saying that though one of the most pleasant it is, with the exception of St. Petersburg, probably the dearest town in Europe. This year it will be more so than ever, as the great Exhibition will be a magnificent affair, and most of the crowned heads of Europe will be in Vienna between the months of May and October. It is very warm in the summer and early autumn, far warmer than London, and the winter is colder.

"The best hotel is, of course, the Grand, the charges at which, all told, would range from 18s. to 25s. a day; the Hotel Munchen is rather less expensive, but has no *table d'hote*. The Goldene Lamm is in the cheapest quarter. The Leopoldstadt is liked by many, and is more than moderate in its charges. The Archduke Carl was formerly liked, but I cannot honestly recommend it at all. New hotels are being built rapidly, some ten in all, of which the greater part will, after the Exhibition be turned into furnished apartments (*hotels garnis.*)

"No one who can help it resides in Vienna in the summer, in consequence of the intense heat and dust. If I were returning thither I should take rooms at Schonbrunn, or, still better, Hutteldorf, where is the Emperor's deer park. The latter is distant from the capital only twenty minutes by rail; excursion ticket half a florin. The cabs are excellent, and cost 1 florin 10 kreutzers an hour. There is a regular tariff, and omnibuses and tramways ply all over the town. Schools, concerts, museums, libraries, theatres, and opera are all of the very highest class, yet within the means of all.

"The society is first rate. There is not a single club which quite comes up to the Londoner's definition of one; the Jockey Club is chiefly for high play, the Casino is considered by many as "fogeyish." The Merchant's Club, and the merchants, and so in Vienna the bulk of the wealth is in the hands of the Jews, who exact the most extortionate rates of interest that may not be considered a recommendation.

"Many Englishmen who are residing in Vienna come into the smoking room at the Grand Hotel after the opera to see English or foreign friends, read the papers, and smoke. I do not know of a boarding house, but rooms and coffee in the morning may be got at one of the numerous *hotels garnis*—for instance, Sehogel's, in the Pestalozzegasse, and Rohmann's, in the Plankengasse. Dinner and breakfast may be got at any of the cafes, which are numerous, and really first rate. There cannot be a pleasanter place to live in, especially during the early autumn, than Vienna; but I would strongly advise all but rich people to confine themselves to the suburbs above mentioned.

"I append charges at the Grand Hotel: Room, 3 to 4 florins; breakfast, with cotelettes, 1 florin 50; dinner, 3 florins; candles, 80 kreuzers (40 kreuzers equal 1 franc); service, 50 kreuzers; wine or beer at average prices; but this year, as the hotel keepers have already consulted on their charges, nothing can be expected to be cheap."

SLEEP.—Go to bed with warm feet, an empty stomach and an unexcited brain. Be sure and keep a clear conscience. Then shall your sleep be dreamless, and your days long in the land.

☞ Let us not think that we have all the dark hours. They are the common lot of humanity. They are the touchstones to try whether we are current coin or not.

Domestic Economy.

VALUABLE RECIPES.

For the Massachusetts Ploughman.

BAKED APPLES.—A nice way of cooking apples is to prepare them in this way: Pare and core ten or twelve apples, Baldwin preferred, place them in a deep earthen dish and add one half cup of cider, one third cup of best molasses and heaping cup of white sugar; cover them with water and bake until they are red. This will be found a very palatable addition to the table, healthful, and far more appetising than a richer preserve.

Anecdotes.

EFFECT OF MARCH WINDS.—March is a terrible month for colds. The following conversation between Jones and Smith, who had not escaped the common complaint, was heard on one of our principal city thoroughfares:—

Mr. Smith—"Jodes."

Mr. Jones—"What is it, Sbith?"

Smith—"Such bordigs! So code and dapp."

Jones—"Yes, subhow my dose is stopped."

Smith—"Sidgular! So is bide?"

Jones—"Iddeed—quite a coideidedce."

Smith—"'Tis so. Do you kdow eddy r-body?"

Jones—"I use caddle grease."

Smith—"Id what badder?"

Jones—"Rub it od by the dose upod goid to bed."

Smith—"Thadk you—I'll try it od your recobbeddatiod. Good bordig, Jones."

Jones—"Good bordig, Sbith."

Exit Jones and Smith, using their pocket handkerchiefs.

STROKING A CAT.—Mr. Jones read somewhere that electric sparks could be evolved from a cat by taking it into a dark room and rubbing its back. He made the experiment, and in a few moments was surprised to hear a loud yell, and to feel something clawing across his face. Then he missed the cat. Mr. Jones in now uncertain whether he was struck by lightning evolved from the cat's back, or whether the cat became unduly excited as he stroked her, and stroked back again; but he is certain that when he undertakes to procure electricity again from a cat he will first sooth her with a gun.

THE LOVERS.—Conversation between an inquiring stranger and a steamboat pilot: "That is Black Mountain?" "Yes, sir; highest mountain above Lake George." "Any story or legend connected with that mountain?" "Lots of 'em. Two lovers went up that mountain once and never came back again." "Indeed—why; what became of them?" "Went down on the other side."

UNHAPPY.—An invalid went to church last Sabbath for the first time for several months. "Did you not enjoy the sermon?" said her husband, thankful to see her in his pew again. "Enjoy it! I guess I did, immensely, until I looked at the lady in a front seat, and all at once I was unhappy, for, would you believe it, my back hair wasn't up high enough."

☞ A poor, emaciated Irishman, having called in a physician as a forlorn hope, the latter spread a large mustard plaster, and put it on the poor fellow's lean chest. Pat, when he with tearful eyes looked down on it, said, "Dochter, it strikes me it's a daie of mustard for so little mate."

☞ At a wedding in a church in New York, the parson, having several persons to marry, said, after entering the building, "All those who want to be married, will please rise," whereupon every single lady present instantly arose from the seats